THE TIMES

No. 65,656 MONDAY AUGUST 12 1996

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ADDICT

10P EVERY SUMMER MONDAY

Labour urged to tackle 'last taboo'

Trim powers of the Queen, Blair is told

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

THE Queen would be stripped of all political powers and her role as head of the Commonwealth to become a ceremonial figurehead under radical proposals to be delivered to Tony Blair today.

In the most far-reaching study on the future of the Royal Family for nearly half a century, a Fabian Society document proposes the abolition of the Civil List, transfer of the powers encompassed by the Royal Prerogative to the Speaker, and new national anthems for England and the United Kingdom.

It calls on Mr Blair to tackle Labour's "last taboo" and face up to the need to reform the monarchy.

One of the most controversial proposals is that the Queen should be replaced as head of the Commonwealth by a rotating presidency, similar to that used within the European Union. The document also advocates a referendum on the future of the monarchy every 10 years at the same time as the census.

The conclusions of the 7,500-word document, *Long to Reign Over Us?*, will be used by Conservatives as evidence that Labour thinkers want to dismantle the Royal Family's historic position within the state, even though the Fabian Society is an independent body and its proposals are not Labour policy. The society, one of the oldest left-of-centre organisations in the world, is affiliated to the party, has 90 Opposition frontbenchers among its members, and has Tony Blair as a patron.

Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, said last night that the document — written by a prospective Labour candidate closely linked to recent party reforms — confirmed new Labour's desire to tamper with the monarchy.

The historian Lord Blake was appalled, describing the suggestions as immature, naive and pointless. "The Queen as monarch has not put a constitutional foot wrong."

Copies of the document will be sent to Tony Blair's office today. One chapter, *Labour's Last Taboo*, says: "Ducking this issue is something that the Labour Party has managed particularly well. No serious attempt has been made by any Labour Government to reform the monarchy, nor has any serious suggestion been made of reform while in opposition."

New Labour advocated reform of Parliament, establishing Scottish and Welsh Parliaments, and a Bill of Rights. "Yet it has so far remained silent on the future of the institution at the heart of Britain's constitution: the monarchy. The uncharted waters into which Charles and Diana's divorce has steered the ship of State, the prospect of a divorcee becoming supreme governor of the Church of England, and the undignified behaviour of the younger royals, throws the future of the monarchy in its present form into serious doubt."

> **"A new national anthem should be composed by the Poet Laureate and Andrew Lloyd-Webber — *God Save the Queen* does not mention Britain or even England once"**

The success of presidents such as Nelson Mandela and Mary Robinson made the failure of the British Royal Family all the more stark. "The Labour Party, to be serious about governing, cannot duck the issue any longer."

The document was written by Paul Richards, the Blairite prospective parliamentary candidate for Billericay, who is a supporter of the Royal Family. Ben Pimlott, the historian and author of a forthcoming biography of the Queen, was on the panel of readers that approved the text.

The pamphlet says that the monarchy might not survive the rising tide of hostility unless the Crown is reinvented as a ceremonial figurehead with the political role removed. It says: "Many functions, such as adjudication in the event of unclear general election results, giving assent to Bills, and the announcing the Government's programme at the start of a parliamentary session, should pass to the Speaker." Powers to declare war and ratify treaties would be switched to Parliament.

Another controversial suggestion is to replace the National Anthem with a hymn such as *I vow to thee my country* or *Jerusalem*. The pamphlet urges the composition of a national anthem to celebrate the UK with words by the Poet Laureate and music by Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber to mark the millennium. "Our national anthem is not an exaltation of nationhood or an expression of pride in our country. It does not mention Britain or even England once."

Funding would be raised through a royal levy of less than £5 per person per year. The Royal Household would be turned into a Department of the Crown answerable to Parliament and the entire expenditure of the monarchy would be brought under annual parliamentary scrutiny. Revenues from the Duchy of Cornwall, which go to the Prince of Wales, would revert to the State.

The pamphlet also urges a re-examination of the establishment of the Church of England and the monarch's role as Supreme Governor in a multi-faith society. It urges the abolition of the 1701 Act of Settlement, so that a monarch could marry a Roman Catholic, and of the law which prevents clergy standing for Parliament.

Above politics, page 2

RAYMONDS PRESS AGENCY

Julian Green, who was killed by an erupting volcano while in the Philippines on a coral conservation scheme

British student killed by volcano

By Tim Jones

A GIFTED medical student has been killed standing on the rim of a volcano in the Philippines which exploded "like an atomic bomb".

Julian Green, 21, died in the arms of fellow adventurer, Gordon Cole, who was praised for his courage in helping others down the mountain around steams of flaming lava. Mr Green, from Uppingham, Leicestershire, died after being hit on the head by a chunk of rock spewed out from the eruption which shook the 7,305ft mount Canlaon, sending ash more than 5,000ft into the air.

Mr Green and Mr Cole, 22, from Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, had gone to the Philippines as volunteers on a coral conservation scheme.

Shortly before leaving for the Far East, Mr Green learnt that he had gained a first class honours degree after studying neuro-sience at Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School at the University of London.

The tragedy, in which two Filipinos, Noel Tragico and Noel Perez also died and several Belgian students were injured, one seriously, occurred early on Saturday morning when two groups of people had reached the rim of the active volcano.

After the explosion some survivors, including Mr Cole, were forced to spend the night on the mountain before being airlifted to hospital.

One of the Belgian students, Philip Coucke, paid tribute to Mr Cole's courage. He said: "On the mountain he was a really big help."

Mr Coucke said that as the mountain erupted he threw himself into a shallow depression as hot ash darkened the sky, making it difficult to breathe. "I was shouting that I would suffocate but then the wind blew away the dark clouds," he said.

Florence de Corte, 20, another Belgian, said: "It was horrific. I saw ash falling down. It was very dark, like

Continued on page 2, col 6

Mount Canlaon: sent ash 5,000ft into the air

Octuplet woman's boyfriend 'not told of drugs'

By Carol Midgley

MEDICAL experts were astonished yesterday that Mandy Allwood, the single mother pregnant with octuplets, was given fertility treatment without her boyfriend's agreement.

Doctors said they found it "extraordinary" that a private clinic in Birmingham apparently did not consult Paul Hudson, 37, before giving Miss Allwood, 31, the hormone Metrodin and a booster drug Pregnyl.

Mr Hudson, a property consultant who has two children from another current relationship, discovered that his lover was taking the powerful ovulation drugs only after she had started the course. He said he found the idea of fertility treatment "unnatural" and was not ready to have another child, though he has said he will stand by her.

Miss Allwood was told that, if she had sex while undergoing the treatment, she risked a multiple pregnancy. After taking two doses of the seven-day course, she confessed to Mr Hudson, who insisted she stop immediately.

Miss Allwood, from Solihull, was referred by her GP to a consultant who is understood to have treated her at the private Priory Hospital in Edgbaston.

Most such clinics insist on counselling potential parents as a couple. Dr Gillian Lockwood, clinical research fellow in fertility attached to the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, said: "I was very surprised that this woman's partner did not know what was happening. In my clinic and in most of the clinics I know, we don't treat women, we treat couples."

Mother in hiding, page 3
Matthew Parris, page 16

200 soldiers die in Grozny

President Yeltsin has ordered an urgent investigation into the "gross miscalculations" which resulted in the deaths of up to 200 Russian soldiers during the worst fighting in the Chechenian capital of Grozny for more than a year ..... Page 7

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Grouse disaster sets RSPB a life-or-death dilemma

By Magnus Linklater

AS GUNS are loaded and Barbours donned this morning for what is likely to prove a modest grouse season, the RSPB is facing an agonising dilemma over whether to support the slaughter of hawks and harriers to protect the game birds they prey on.

The society's policy on shooting is strictly neutral, but it has always held that if sporting guns were stilled and nature allowed to take its course, a balance would be struck between gamebirds and predators, with both species flourishing.

Now that theory is being put to the test in an experiment at Langholm in Dumfriesshire. Although no one involved is yet prepared to discuss it publicly, it is an open secret that game birds have suffered a catastrophic decline on the moor — which once had the most grouse in Britain — since gamekeepers stopped trying to control birds of prey five years ago. Other species, such as curlew, plover and some small heathland birds, have virtually disappeared.

"A disappointing shoot. I only managed to bag a brace"

The hands-off experiment on the Duke of Buccleuch's 25,000-acre estate, now in its final year, has been part-funded by the RSPB, which is monitoring the findings.

Until it was launched, gamekeepers controlled the predators, although they were prevented by law from shooting or poisoning them. Now they stand back as buzzards, hawks and hen harriers, hunting in pairs, take their toll. The result, in their view, has been nothing short of a disaster. Some local landowners believe the moor may never recover.

The Langholm report, which is expected to be drawn up later this year, will come at a point when grouse shooting faces a crisis. Last week, figures produced by the

Continued on page 2, col 4

Leading article, page 17

United puncture the £15m dreams

By Rob Hughes

ALAN SHEARER, the world's most expensive footballer, was brought back down to earth yesterday afternoon when his new team suffered a drubbing at the hands of Manchester United — the side he rejected.

Before 73,214 Wembley spectators, many of whom had turned up to gloat that the former Blackburn star had opted to sign for Newcastle for £15 million, the message was that no one man makes a team. A striker not served with the ball cannot score, and if the opponents are better in every department he is lost.

Newcastle were beaten in the Charity Shield, the traditional curtain-raiser to the English football season, by four goals to nil. Manchester United, holders of the Premier League and FA Cup double, demonstrated that in team work, in thought and pace and deed, they remain superior.

The afternoon began with tens of thousands of Newcastle supporters waving "Shearer class" banners and taunting opposing fans with "Shearer's coming home". In the event, he looked an exasperated ordinary man beaten by a team who were led by an extraordinary one.

Eric Cantona, their French captain, inspired Manchester United with the first goal, led them to further goals from Butt, Beckham and Keane and, being Cantona, survived what should have been a second-half sending off when he lost his temper and manhandled Belgian defender Phillipe Albert to the ground.

For Newcastle, whose bench contained £16.25 million of under-used talents, the hope has to be that the spending of high summer will start to pay dividends when the real season begins next weekend.

Reports, pages 21, 27

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PLUS: The Valerie Grove interview

SATURDAY

SUPERWOMAN

Neneh Cherry's brilliant career, in the **Magazine**

PLUS: Weekend, Car 96, 1015 for young Times readers and **Vision,** the 7-day TV and radio guide

Head of state must remain above politics

The Fabian plan for the monarchy would bring party politics into constitutional areas which are better as politics-free zones, says Vernon Bogdanor

A MODERN constitutional monarch fulfils two roles, a constitutional one as head of state and a symbolic one as head of the nation. Both are best undertaken by someone free of party ties. During the VE and VJ celebrations last year, the Queen represented the nation to itself in a way impossible for a former party politician, whether an elected president or the Speaker of the Commons.

Francois Mitterrand was president of just one part of France, not of the whole nation. Mary Robinson is widely respected in the Irish republic, but one of her predecessors, Cearbhall O'Dalaigh, was, in effect, forced out of office in 1976 by a government which was politically opposed to him. It would not benefit Britain to have a head of state who was at the mercy of the government.

The fundamental reform which Paul Richards favours — transferring the sovereign's power to appoint a Prime Minister and dissolve Parliament to the Speaker — was achieved in Sweden in 1974. Its main consequence has been to politicise the Speakership. The choice of Speaker has become part of the political battle. In Britain, a Conservative majority would hardly allow the election of Betty Boothroyd, a Labour MP, were the Speakership to be given these new powers. It would instead choose a less worthy figure but one who could be relied upon to defend the interests of the government. This would be a real accretion of power to the governing party. Yet one main aim of the constitutional reform movement is to limit the powers of government and place them under constitutional control.

Mr Richards wants a ten-year referendum on the monarchy. But the referendums we have had so far — on Europe and on devolution — have been on propositions put forward by the government of the day. What would be the point of a referendum on the monarchy when all the main political parties favour it? Besides, in 1995 a MORI poll revealed 41 per cent satisfied with the constitutional role of the monarchy, a higher score than for any institution other than local councils. Parliament and the courts scored only 34 per cent each. Should we have referendums on them as well?

Mr Richards want to replace the Queen's role as Head of the Commonwealth with a rotating headship. But, with 53 member states and a six-month term, each state would hold the headship just once every 26 years. Idi Amin was a Commonwealth Head of State. Would he have been acceptable as Head of the Commonwealth?

The monarchy, as Mr Richards suggests, must always modernise itself, and there is certainly a case for making the royal finances more transparent. Archaic legislation such as the Act of Settlement and the Royal Marriages Act could also benefit from reform. But the fundamental case for keeping the head of state uncontaminated by party ties is quite unanswerable.

Vernon Bogdanor is Professor of Government, Oxford University. His book The Monarchy and the Constitution *was published by Oxford University Press in 1995.*

Blair embarks on crusade to convert Labour doubters

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR has decided to tackle head-on the fears raised by Clare Short about his revolution in the Labour Party and embark on a crusade to win over the doubters.

In the first clear sign that he is ready to respond to concern about his leadership style, Mr Blair has let it be known that he will intensify his efforts to bring on board the whole of the party for his reforms. He is to use this autumn's internal debate on Labour's draft manifesto, culminating in a referendum of party members, as a test of Labour's unity. To win backing for the document, he will lead the campaign around the country to secure party support and to try to ensure that the whole party is comfortable with the changes.

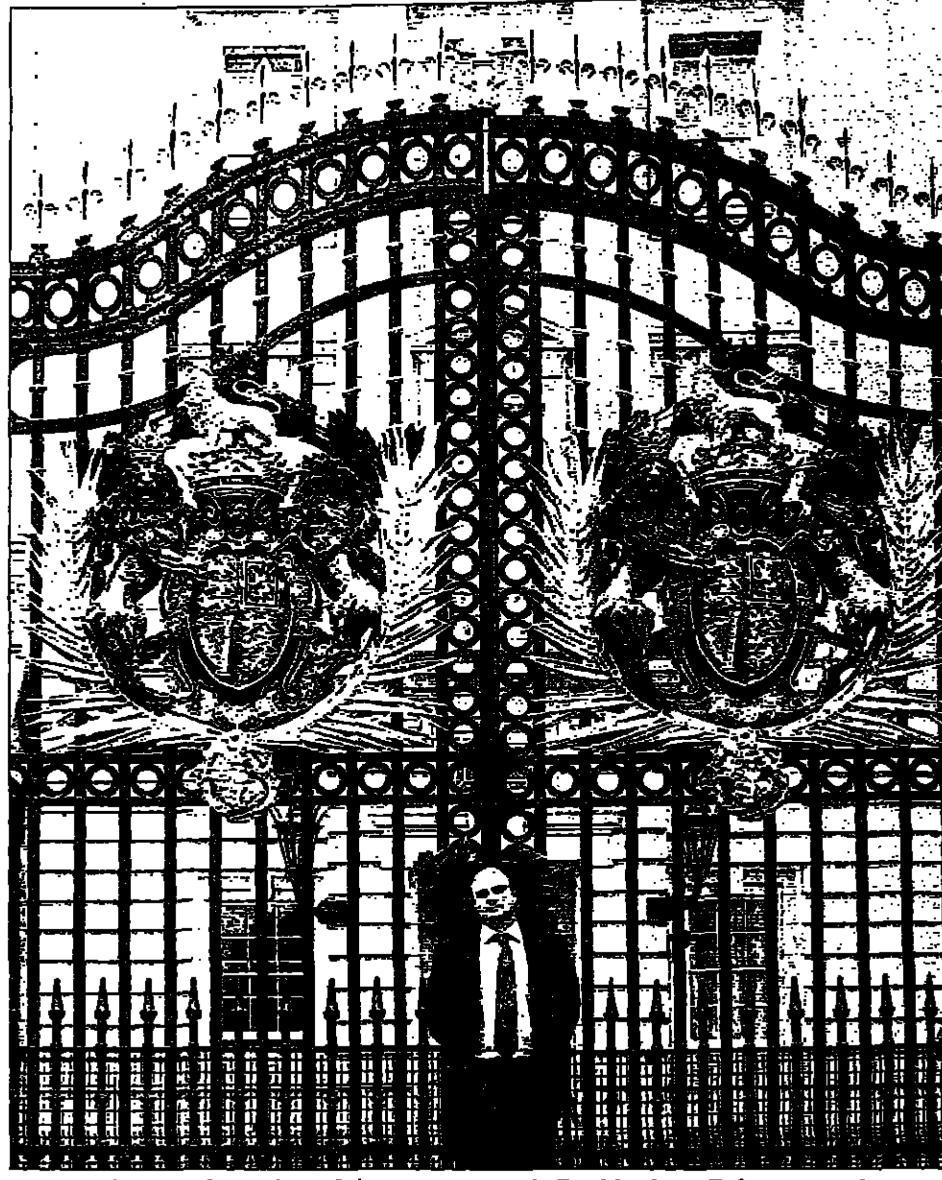
Mr Blair is said by close allies to be determined that there should be no retreat from the policy and organisational changes. But his move is an acknowledgement that Ms Short, in her highly critical interview in the *New Statesman*, was probably speaking for others in the party who are unhappy at the scale and pace of change and at suggestions that Mr Blair is turning his back on Labour's past.

Those misgivings were echoed yesterday by two former Labour Cabinet ministers, Peter Shore and Roy Hattersley. Mr Shore, speaking on BBC1's *Breakfast with Frost*, said that Labour was failing to take on the Tories "on the high ground of politics". Mr Shore said: "It is no good pretending that we are a party which is no longer interested in re-distributing income in favour of those who are less advantaged than us in our society. It is no good pretending we are no longer in favour of improving and expanding our community services. They are fundamental and the very instinct of the Labour movement."

Mr Shore said the party spin-doctors were wrong to try to push the message that Labour no longer believed in higher spending on public services, and so in higher taxes, so as to avoid frightening Tory waverers. "The high ground of politics is always very much about taxation. To what purpose is it justified or not, are you part of a community or are you an individual?"

Mr Hattersley, the former deputy Labour leader, wrote in *The Observer* that the leadership would be recklessly insensitive to ignore Ms Short's complaint that Labour was becoming ashamed of its own past. "Writing off the last 30 years looks like abandoning the basic principles on which the policies of those three decades were built."

Mr Blair will use his full authority to get the maximum support for the manifesto document. He is reported to be confident that when he puts over his case directly to the party it will strongly back him, as in the past. But his apparent readiness to listen to the fears of the traditionalists is significant and will be welcomed by party activists and figures such as Ms Short.



JAMES MORGAN

Paul Richards, author of the report, outside Buckingham Palace yesterday

Tories accused of demonising smear

LABOUR'S election chief last night accused the Conservatives of trying to buy victory with the biggest negative advertising campaign in British political history (Philip Webster writes).

As the Tories unveiled a new poster depicting Tony Blair with demonic eyes, Peter Mandelson said that if they were prepared to portray a practising Christian as the devil, there were no limits to how far they would go in personalising the campaign. The new poster, drawn up by the party's advertising agency at the urging of Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, was the immediate response to last week's comments by Clare Short.

It has the caption: "One of Labour's leaders Clare Short says dark forces behind Tony Blair manipulate policy in a sinister way."

Some senior Conservatives privately voiced alarm over the campaign. One said: "It is dangerously personal. Labour tends to keep off Major. I'm not sure we should be going for Blair. The public does not like it."

Mr Mandelson, who has been appointed as chief election strategist by Mr Blair and was assumed to be one of Ms Short's "dark forces", said negative campaigning was "designed to engender irrational fear".

Dr Mawhinney denied that the campaign was an attempt to "demonise" the Labour leader. On GMTV, he said: "I don't think it is personal, certainly not in the sense of trying to demonise Mr Blair. What it is doing is taking Clare Short's words and saying to the British people, 'If a Labour leader says that it is sinister, that it's a lie, it's dangerous, then they ought to take note'."

Leading article, page 17

Fabians' political influence far outstrips historic group's size

BY ANDREW PIERCE

THE Fabian Society, which published a report on the future of the monarchy yesterday, was founded in 1884 in London with the goal of achieving a democratic socialist state.

The Fabians put their faith in evolutionary socialism rather than in revolution. The name of the society was derived from the Roman general Fabius Cunctator, whose patience in avoiding pitched battles secured ultimate victory over barbarian forces.

The society's early members included George Bernard Shaw and H.G. Wells. The founders were the social reformers Sidney and Beatrice Webb.

The Fabians at first attempted to permeate the Liberal and Conservative parties with their socialist philosophies. But when that strategy failed they helped to set up the Labour Representation Committee, which became the Labour Party in 1906. The Fabian Society has been affiliated to Labour ever since.

Membership of the society peaked at 8,400 in 1946. It is currently steady at about 5,000. But its importance has outstripped its size: most recent Labour leaders have been members. Paul Richards, the author of the pamphlet, is a member of the Fabian Society executive.

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Nationalist sit-down blocks road in protest at march

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT, AND AUDREY MAGEE

MORE than 100 nationalist protesters tried to block a loyalist march in Co Londonderry last night as a weekend of contentious marches in Northern Ireland drew to a close.

Police in riot gear were drafted into the village of Bellaghy as the demonstrators, including members of Sinn Fein, staged a sit-down protest on the main road against the march by 200 members of the Royal Black Preceptory.

Negotiations between the two sides, which were organised by the RUC, continued as nationalists voiced strong objections to the march through the predominantly Roman Catholic village.

Other contentious marches throughout Northern Ireland during the weekend passed off relatively peacefully. Nationalist and Unionist leaders in Londonderry took heart after the biggest march of the day, attended by thousands of loyalist Apprentice Boys, took place without incident.

However, disturbances broke out in the city in the early hours of yesterday when nationalists hurled petrol bombs at the police and at Londonderry's war memorial. Police fired scores of plastic bullets to disperse the crowd. Police also fired plastic bullets on Saturday evening when loyalist protesters hurled stones at RUC lines in Dunloy, Co Antrim. The police were atacked when they prevented Apprentice Boys returning home from Londonderry from marching through a nationalist area.

A Sinn Fein rally in Belfast, which was held to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the introduction of internment without trial, also passed off peacefully yesterday. Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein president, said the issue of contentious marches had to be resolved.

RSPB dilemma

Scottish Landowners' Federation (SLF) showed that since 1977 stocks of grouse have crashed.

Although this season suggests a mild recovery, the prospects are bleak for landowners who need large numbers of birds to attract the big-spending shooting clients they need to make ends meet.

The SLF estimated that in 1994 revenues from grouse shooting brought in only £3 million in Scotland against expenditure of £13.7 million. At least 100 moors have gone out of commission in the past five years, with the loss of about 400 jobs.

The RSPB may well argue that helping landowners to build up stocks of grouse is not its business. But it will find it hard to dispute the findings of a survey in which it has taken part. And if they reveal the loss of other birds, such as larks, curlew and plover, it may have to take action.

Last weekend, David Minns, RSPB head of public affairs for Scotland, said he could not discuss the Langholm experiment. However, he pointed out that on the society's own 32,000-acre estate at Abernethy, where the preservation of black grouse and capercaillie has been the main obective, they have achieved significant increases in numbers without any control of birds of prey — though they have had to shoot foxes and crows, and cull deer.

"The answer lies in having a far greater variety of vegetation than you would see on a traditional grouse moor," he said. "If you have trees and scrub, it gives the grouse somewhere to hide and more to feed on."

Leading article, page 17

Volcano

Continued from page 1

night. Several stones hit my body. I could not run. I hid behind a rock. I saw many of my friends being hit by stones," Ms de Corte said. Another survivor said: "The explosion was ... like an atomic bomb."

Yesterday, Mr Green's mother, Gill, 47, a teacher, said the whole family had been devastated by news of the tragedy.

She said that her son was helping to make records of the coral and fish life in the Philippines. "He was going to return to do three years' clinical work to qualify as a doctor. This was his last long holiday before starting his working life and he wanted to put it to good use."

Mrs Green said her son loved travel and adventure and three years ago had won the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Yard sets up ethnic links advisory body

Black and Asian community leaders are to be invited by Scotland Yard to join an advisory council in a new effort to improve links between police and ethnic minorities. The council will be the first of its kind set up by a force in Britain. The move will be announced later this month when the Yard sets out a new five-year strategy. The council would oversee the whole of the Yard's race relations policy and could advise police on how to handle sensitive incidents such as deaths in custody.

MoD claim rejected

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament yesterday rejected a statement from the Ministry of Defence which said that there "has never been" an accident involving the release of radioactivity from nuclear weapons in Britain. It followed a report in *The Observer* yesterday that accidents involving weapons had been covered up by the MoD for 40 years.

Sport gets £30m boost

The Lottery Sports Funds have given £30 million to 23 different sports in the latest round of awards. The two biggest grants are to Hampshire County Cricket Club, in Southampton, which gets £7.1 million towards a £10.7 million ground relocation scheme, and Stoke-on-Trent City Council, which receives £7 million towards an £8.2 million volleyball project.

Bomb bill to reach £1bn

The cost of rebuilding Manchester city centre is likely to reach £1 billion as damage from the IRA bomb in June continues to be uncovered. The final bill will not be known until November when the city council presents figures to the Government but it expects to face a shortfall running into tens of millions of pounds. Council leaders and the City Centre Task Force are preparing to seek more help.

Thunderstorm alert

The thunderstorms and heavy rain that swept the country yesterday are set to continue today, with the risk of some localised flooding across the South East. Parts of London, East Anglia and the North were deluged with sudden rain yesterday. A spokesman for the Meteorological Office said: "We are not out of the woods yet." He gave warning of local flash floods.

Forecast, page 20

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A possible £1m in deals is dependent on a large number of the eight foetuses being born

Mother in hiding as PR man seeks sponsorship

By Carol Midgley

MANDY ALLWOOD, the single mother expecting eight babies, was seeking sanctuary at a secret address in the Home Counties last night from the "media circus" surrounding her high-risk pregnancy.

Miss Allwood, 31, who has sold her story to the *News of the World* for an estimated £100,000, was accused of gambling her life and the lives of all her unborn children by insisting on proceeding without interference with the pregnancy, which she hopes will raise £1 million in newspaper and sponsorship payments.

The former property consultant and her boyfriend, Paul Hudson, 37, have enlisted the services of Max Clifford, the PR consultant. He is contacting car, baby food and disposable-nappy companies to find a sponsorship deal.

Meanwhile the couple, from Solihull in the West Midlands, have asked the *News of the World* to provide them with a secret address close to King's College Hospital in south London, where Miss Allwood is under the care of Professor Kypros Nicolaides, head of foetal medicine.

Doctors have advised Miss Allwood to have some of the embryos aborted or risk losing them all and damaging her own health. She has said: "I know some people will call us irresponsible but as far as I am concerned, the more the merrier."

The newspaper is understood to be paying for a private tutor for Miss Allwood's son from a previous marriage, Charlie, 5, during their period in hiding. Yesterday Phil Hall, the *News of the World's* Editor, denied there was a "sliding scale" in operation, where the deal was dependent on how many babies Miss Allwood had, and he insisted she was not out to make her fortune from the octuplets. "She does not want to gain financially for herself: she wants the money to bring up, feed and clothe her children," he said.

"If she doesn't have any children she doesn't get any money. If she gives birth to eight babies she will need a lot of money, if she gives birth to six she will still need a lot of money. If she loses two or three children we are still very interested in her story and the deal still stands."

He added that if Miss Allwood miscarried or did not go through with the pregnancy the newspaper would "pay her a small amount and send her on holiday". He declined to say how much was being paid to the couple but insisted that reported figures of £350,000 were "way off the mark".

Mr Clifford, however, said that how much sponsorship Miss Allwood attracted would depend on how many babies she had. "But the deal will benefit Mandy and Paul if, God forbid, she doesn't have any children at all. It is market forces. If she gives birth to two or three babies, well, lots of people have done that. If she gives birth to seven or eight there will be huge world interest."

Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Birmingham Erdington, said: "It is a delicate, sensitive and extremely serious matter that ought not to be milked for money. To try to make money out of a medical oddity of this kind is extremely distasteful."

Clifford: believes market forces dictate interest

Miss Allwood told the *News of the World*: "I'm deliriously happy. I want nature to take its course." The couple rejected advice to abort six embryos. Mr Hudson said: "That's too horrific to contemplate. Our eight babies were obviously meant to be."

Pro-life groups welcomed Miss Allwood's desire to keep all the babies. Professor Jack Scarisbrick of the anti-abortion group Life had pleaded for nature to be allowed to take its course as some foetuses could naturally die as the pregnancy progressed. He said: "I am delighted by her pro-life response to this challenge."

Mr Hudson, a property consultant, first contacted Central Television in Birmingham to tout the story. He then rang the *News of the World* and met representatives last Monday. On Wednesday he and Miss Allwood travelled to Wimbledon, southwest London, to meet Mr Clifford, who is now helping to shield them from rival television and newspaper reporters.

"If all goes well over the next year we are talking about £1 million in sponsorship, syndication and deals. She will need every penny she can get," Mr Clifford said.

"She doesn't believe in abortion, it's that simple. I guess it is a sign of the times that the first person she contacted was her gynaecologist and the second was the PR. I think she has done the right thing. Right now she isn't the one being besieged by the press, I am, and that has got to be better for her."

Last night the father of Miss Allwood's ex-husband Simon described her as "an extremely astute woman who is very ambitious". Andrew Pugh, from Solihull, said: "All I care about is Charlie, who is my own flesh and blood. I am determined to try to ensure that he does not suffer permanently because of all this attention to his mother and her unborn babies.

"It is up to the parents what they do, but I honestly don't know what effect it would have on Charles. If you had eight other kids the pressure on everything would be immense."

Mandy Allwood and her boyfriend Paul Hudson, neither of whom countenance abortions

Pregnancy that should be viewed as a catastrophe for all involved

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

FERTILITY treatment needs careful control if disasters, such as those threatening Mandy Allwood and her eight developing embryos, are to be avoided. Not only is it most unlikely that any of the eight babies will survive, but the pregnancy and delivery also pose an unnecessary threat to the health, even life, of the mother. In medical eyes this pregnancy is a catastrophe.

Many doctors will be puzzled about why Miss Allwood was prescribed fertility treatment, for she had already had two pregnancies without, so far as is known, any problems. In her interview with the *News of the World* she did not mention that there had been previous evidence of ovulatory failure and, indeed, she had an abortion three years ago, after receiving drugs following a car crash.

If history was to be made and Miss Allwood's eight embryos did live, the home background would not strike most doctors as an ideal one for the children. Paul Hudson, her boyfriend, is not living with her and has publicly said he does not intend to, for he has two children by another current girlfriend. Not unnaturally, Mr Hudson says that he was opposed to Miss Allwood becoming pregnant at all. The dangers of misdirected fertility treatment are well-known. Multiple pregnancies result in premature delivery and unfortunately when these very small babies live they are likely to suffer physical and mental damage. Multiple pregnancies also carry an increased risk to the mother, both during the pregnancy and from severe bleeding and the danger of an obstructive blood clot after delivery. The accepted adage is that all the complications of pregnancy become more likely when it is multiple, and that they will also probably be more severe.

Miss Allwood's account of her fertility treatment is rather vague. She says that she was prescribed Metrodin (urofollitrophin) together with Pregnyl (chorionic gonadotrophin) after consultation with her GP. But she does not actually say that it was her own doctor who gave her these preparations. It is very unusual for GPs to provide infertility treatment of this sort because the response to Metrodin, which stimulates the ovary to produce the eggs, has to be monitored carefully by ultrasound and taking hormone levels. After a suitable ovarian response to Metrodin — which is not the simultaneous ripening of eight ova — Pregnyl is given to bring about ovulation, the release of the eggs.

When the use of Metrodin, which is made from the urine of post-menopausal women, results in hyperstimulation of the ovaries, multiple pregnancies are not the only hazard. Hyperstimulation also causes enlargement of the ovary; if the patient is fortunate she may suffer no more than abdominal discomfort, possibly severe enough to be classified as pain, but if she is unlucky the hyperstimulation may lead to serious haemorrhage if the enlarged cysts rupture. There have been deaths from this cause and also from another complication of hyperstimulation, deep vein thrombosis.

Mothers who have an overabundance of maternal feelings may think that it would be nice to have an instant family the size of a nursery class. Doctors who have seen the results of some premature deliveries are less enthusiastic about this maternal dream; they know that to conceive eight babies at once, however good the home background, presents a failure, not a success. So great is the failure that even the thought of a reward of £1 million would not justify the experiment.

Time ran out for heart defect girl

By Des Burkinshaw

A GIRL aged two has died from a congenital heart defect after spending nearly all her life on a hospital waiting list. The parents of Natalie Kelley say that she was denied life-saving treatment because Killingbeck Hospital, Leeds, had only one paediatric heart surgeon, who was too busy to operate on their daughter.

The hospital is seeking to employ a second surgeon after admitting that it breached the Patients' Charter guidelines on waiting times.

The girl's congenital defect was diagnosed shortly after her birth. Her parents, Robert and Sadie Kelley, said that doctors had warned them that she would need an operation before her first birthday if she were to live.

They are demanding an inquiry. Mrs Kelley, 24, from Dewsbury, west Yorkshire, said that the family felt mistreated by the hospital. "We know that if they had done this operation Natalie would have stood a chance. She didn't deserve to die like this."

The child died on June 5 after collapsing at home. A post-mortem examination revealed that death was a result of a blood clot caused by pulmonary atresia, a congenital narrowing of coronary arteries.

An operation had been scheduled for March but was cancelled because the waiting list had not shortened sufficiently. The girl's case was reviewed in April, when her fingers and toes were turning blue and she had difficulty in breathing and walking.

The hospital has written to Mr and Mrs Kelley admitting that it breached the Patient's Charter recommendations on waiting times.

A spokesman for the hospital said: "We have every sympathy for Natalie's parents at this very sad time and if they have any unresolved concerns I would urge them to contact the hospital.

"Patients are reviewed to make sure they are not deteriorating. It seems as though Natalie did so very suddenly. It seems as though the information given to the parents was not as full as it should have been."

Pupils face more murder inquiries

By Kathryn Knight and Stewart Tendler

THE headmaster of Launceston College spoke of his hopes yesterday for "an end to the uncertainty" over the murder of Caroline Dickinson, as French police prepared to travel to Cornwall to question pupils at the school again.

Caroline, 13, was raped and smothered three weeks ago in a youth hostel on the last night of a school trip to Pleine Fougères in Brittany. Patrice Pade, 39, a local tramp who was arrested and charged after apparently confessing to Caroline's murder, was freed on Thursday after DNA tests cleared him.

Devon and Cornwall Police are awaiting a formal request from French police to travel to Launceston, but detectives are expected to make the trip in the next few days. They are understood to be anxious to question the four girls with whom Caroline shared a dormitory and the five boys who were among the 39 pupils on the trip.

Paul Wroath, the headmaster, said yesterday that many of his pupils had already been interviewed for up to five hours in the days immediately after the murder. Sixty detectives were involved in the investigation.

"The interviews were long and thorough. In some cases questioning sessions lasted five hours. Statements were taken, stored on computer and signed by each interviewee. Full descriptions were given of any possible suspects," Mr Wroath said.

He added that while many pupils had coped remarkably well, many still needed counselling. "Many are resilient and composed while others remain distressed. They have had to go through so much in these past few weeks. They must be helped to come to terms with what has happened and regain the confidence to enjoy life in the way that children should," he said.

Caroline's parents, Sue and John Dickinson, also called for renewed attempts to catch their daughter's killer. "Then the man who robbed Caroline of her future and us of a lovely daughter will not be free to commit such a crime again," Mr Dickinson said.

Laugh a minute as festival comics try to avoid the one-man audience

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

A FIGHT for audiences on this year's Edinburgh fringe may be beyond a joke. A total of 185 comedy shows are competing for attention, 40 per cent up on last year and four times higher than a decade ago.

They are up against more than 14,000 fringe performances by 9,000 artistes of all varieties, plus the International Festival and the Drambuie Film Festival. The 50th year of the three-week arts bonanza began last night with the international premiere of *Dragonheart*, starring Sean Connery as the dragon's voice.

The film festival also includes premieres of REM's *Road Movie*, *Mulholland Falls* starring Nick Nolte, Bernardo Bertolucci's *Stealing Beauty*, and a visit by Jarvis Cocker of Pulp to talk about his pop videos. The International Festival includes the Mark Morris Dance Group at the Festival Theatre, and Miranda Richardson in *Orlando* at the Royal Lyceum.

One comedian, Chris Addison, recalled the horror of last year's Edinburgh fringe: his double-act with a friend played to a one-man audience. The venue had 50 seats. Having an early morning slot did not help.

The man's solitary clapping echoed through the hall as he said: "Very good, guys." Addison has been picked to appear in the BBC New Comedy Awards.

The comics are hoping to be seen by the dozens of talent-scouting agents, producers and promoters from as far afield as Australia, as well as the judges for this year's Perrier awards. The top prize, announced on August 24, is only £3,000, but all shortlisted winners get an autumn season in London.

Winning the prize has become a fast-track to stardom. Lee Evans became a film star, with three offers from Hollywood. Nica Burns, director of the Perrier awards, said: "He was always going to make it. The Perrier just made it a bit quicker."

Last year's Perrier winner, Jenny Eclair, is back again. Among those making their debut this year with a full-length show is Matt Welcome, formerly a telecommunications computer analyst, who decided to try his luck in showbusiness after a successful wedding speech as best man. He said: "It was the first bit of public speaking I'd done. Friends encouraged me to do some comedy in the local pub. Then someone at work died. That planted the seed. I thought, I don't want to die in this office. I didn't want my life to go by."

He specialises in the surreal and the sarcastic, such as: "When I was very very young, I had this feeling I was a boy, but a boy trapped inside a woman's body. Then I was born and it sorted itself out."

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Howard agrees to compensate supergun informant

Paul Grecian: to claim more than £500,000 in damages

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

THE businessman who told the intelligence services about Iraq's secret Supergun project is to receive compensation from the Home Office after his conviction for selling arms to Baghdad was quashed by the Appeal Court.

Paul Grecian, former managing director of Ordtec, a Reading-based arms company now in liquidation, received a suspended sentence in 1992 for illegally exporting an artillery fuse assembly line to Iraq.

His conviction was quashed when it was revealed he had been working as an informant for MI6 and MI5 and that documents disclosing his relationship with the intelligence services had been withheld from the defence counsel. Mr Grecian, 41, who has been unemployed since his company closed, applied to the Home Office for compensation under section 133 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, claiming miscarriage of justice. His case was also examined as part of the Scott inquiry into the arms-for-Iraq affair.

Yesterday Lawrence Kormornick, Mr Grecian's solicitor, said Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, had now decided to make, without admission of liability, a payment from public funds. He said he was now preparing a "schedule of loss" — likely to be "well in excess of £500,000" — to compensate for pain, suffering and hardship as well as loss of earnings, "past, present and future". Mr Grecian described the compensation decision yesterday as "a major step forward".

More than half a dozen former company executives at the heart of the Scott inquiry are involved in claims against the Government, totalling millions of pounds. Paul Henderson, Trevor Abraham and Peter Allen, the three former executives of Matrix Churchill who were acquitted of charges relating to the sale to Iraq of machine-tooling equipment, are claiming against Customs and Excise.

Reginald Dunk of Atlantic Commercial Ltd and Alexander Schlesinger, a consultant to the company, whose convictions for selling sub-machineguns to Iraq via Jordan were quashed two years ago, were told in April that they were to receive compensation from the Home Office for miscarriage of justice. Apart from his case against the Home Office, Mr Grecian has been granted legal aid to sue Customs for wrongful arrest and/or malicious prosecution. A writ is expected within months, with a damages claim also in excess of £500,000.

Mr Grecian still faces charges in the United States of illegally selling artillery fuses to Iraq and recently spent five months in jail in South Africa after being arrested at Johannesburg airport on an Interpol warrant. He was freed by a court to return to Britain.

Ordtec's artillery fuse contract was with Space Research Corporation, a Geneva-based company through which Gerald Bull, designer of the Iraqi Supergun, carried out business. The fuses were to be exported to the Jordanian forces, although Mr Grecian told the Scott inquiry that he and his company knew the fuses were bound for Iraq.

Sir Richard Scott said in his report that the Ordtec affair was complicated by the fact that Mr Grecian, like Mr Henderson of Matrix Churchill, was helping the intelligence services. However, the timing of his information about the Supergun has always been crucial. Mr Grecian claimed he first mentioned it to the Metropolitan Police Special Branch in January 1989 and to MI5 and MI6 soon after. The Special Branch and MI5 and MI6 insisted the meeting took place on December 21, 1989.

The intelligence services argued that Mr Grecian's assistance as an informant began only *after* his company had signed the deal to sell the fuse assembly to Iraq. They also said they knew nothing of Ordtec's involvement in the contract when they first met him.

Sir Richard supported the intelligence services' recollection of the timing of the initial meeting and also cast doubt on Mr Grecian's claim that he had spoken about his company's fuse deal each time he met his contacts in MI6 and MI5. Sir Richard said he was convinced Mr Grecian made no mention of the fuse contract until May 15, 1990.

An MI6 officer said he warned Mr Grecian that the intelligence services could not sanction any breach of UK law, including exporting munitions with a false end-user certificate. Mr Grecian denied a warning was given.

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Government launches inquiry

Exam board sets grade C maths GCSE at 14%

By Joel Wolchover

EDUCATION officials are investigating an examination board that reduced the grade C pass mark in a GCSE mathematics paper to just 14 per cent.

The reduction brought down the mark needed to get a grade A to 43 per cent, according to the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority (SCAA), which monitors the performance of exam boards.

The Department for Education will began an inquiry today into allegations that the Southern Examining Group (SEG) reduced the pass level after this year's results showed that candidates had not done as well as expected.

A department spokeswoman confirmed that SEG, which sets GCSE mathematics papers taken by about a third of candidates, had been investigated two years ago for similar "grade boundary inconsistencies". She said: "Standards have to be maintained at a certain level and an examination board such as this has to adhere to that standard. We are concerned about standards, we want them to be as high as possible.

"Our officals will be inquiring of this board how it came to mark these papers in this way. If we are still not happy with the explanation, the SCAA will be asked to take a second look."

Although the investigation is at an early stage, Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, has the power to take away the group's right to set examinations.

Last year Mrs Shephard introduced controls on the number of syllabuses allowed in several GCSE subjects, including mathematics, after a lengthy investigation into the marking practices of SEG and the London University Examination and Assessment Council. The investigation, carried out by the SCAA, concluded that the SEG had given out more GCSE B grades than were justified when marking mathematics and science papers taken in 1994.

Tony Millns, assistant chief executive of the SCAA, said that the recommendations made after that inquiry may have prompted SEG to set a particularly difficult paper this year, making it harder for candidates to score high marks, which in turn affected the level at which grades were awarded.

"The grade B inquiry indicated that SEG needed to reconsider its standards in mathematics," he said. "This year's results will be kept under particularly close scrutiny, to make sure there is no major discrepancy between this year's results and last year's, or with other examining boards."

Mr Millns added that the SCAA would be asking for a report from its independent observer, who was at the meeting at which SEG officials decided that one paper was so hard that a mark of 43 per cent would merit a grade A.

Up to a third of SEG's 200,000 GCSE mathematics candidates sat the paper under investigation. It carries 35 per cent of the total marks and, taken with another paper and coursework, forms the hardest combination candidates can take.

George Turnbull, a spokesman for SEG, defended the board's marking practices. He said: "If the examination paper is more difficult, it will be harder for students to get marks, therefore the raw score will be lower. If it is easier, students will have to get a higher percentage to get the same grade.

"I can guarantee that the standards of the scripts for that particular paper are equivalent to a grade C from last year's examination, and the previous year's examination."

However, the low pass grade was criticised by the Engineering Employers' Federation. Ann Bailey, its head of education, said: "Fourteen per cent may make the grade for the Southern Examining Group but it doesn't make the grade for the engineering industry. Engineering employers need to know that recruits have a good grounding in maths and credible qualifications. A 14 per cent pass mark is neither."

News of the decision came as next week's GCSE results were expected to reveal a rise in pass rates for the ninth year running, prompting renewed criticism that exams are getting easier.

Early choices deter army of 'lost' students

By David Charter
Education Correspondent

THOUSANDS of well-qualified sixthformers turn down places at university because they are made to specialise too early, admissions officials say in a report today.

More than 33,000 students with sufficient exam grades decided not to go to university last year. One in seven of these was offered a place but turned it down, usually because they wanted to rethink their career path.

The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service blames the "lost" students on the narrowness of A-level study and the need to apply for a university place up to a year before the course starts. This means the choice of degree may be based on only the first year of A-level study.

Tony Higgins, chief executive of Ucas, says: "Our research suggests that people are having to make up their minds far too early on what they want to study and are perhaps being led into a specialisation far too soon.

"This points to a crying need for candidates to apply for higher education when they are older and when they already have their results."

After the need to rethink the direction of study and career, the second most common reason for not taking up an offered place was rejection by a first-choice university, followed by personal reasons and money worries.

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals is consulting on a twin-track system which would allow applicants to choose whether to apply on predicted A-level grades many months in advance, as now, or to wait until after A-level results.

Higgins: said decisions had to be made too early

Last year Ucas received 205,000 applications from students who had achieved sufficient grades for university — that is, at least two grade Es at A level or equivalent.

Chris May, 20, was accepted by Lancaster University last summer for a business management degree but decided to take time to reconsider his future. He left college with a merit in his general national vocational qualification in business, equivalent to two good A levels.

Mr May, an assistant bar manager in Exeter, said: "I took the business course because a careers adviser said it would leave my options open. However, I found it closed options for me when I left college. People are made to choose too early. You have to have your whole life planned out before you go to university and if you don't you could waste three years."

"Hello, hello, hello": Liam Gallagher opened proceedings at Knebworth, greeting 250,000 fans. Photograph: Gill Allen

Big is beautiful as Oasis take their place in the record books

One in 20 Britons applied for tickets to see Oasis in concert at Knebworth. Caitlin Moran joined the crowd on Saturday

"YOU'RE making history, you lot," the beaming Noel Gallagher says, looming over the audience on the largest video screens in the world. And indeed they are: 250,000 people over two days made Oasis at Knebworth one of the biggest gigs in British history.

Three million people, 5 per cent of the population, applied for tickets and those lucky enough to get them were treated to two new songs, *My Big Mouth* and *It's Getting Better Man*, along with tried and tested hits. With a guest list of 7,000 there were plenty of opportunities for star-spotting: Mick Hucknall of *Simply Red*, Jarvis Cocker and Kate Moss made their way to the celebrity enclosure to compare bodyguards with Liam Gallagher and Patsy Kensit, and all looked disingenuously surprised when mobbed by amateur paparazzi.

For those not chosen as Kate Moss's plus one, there were tickets still available at a price. Cro-Magnon touts were willing to get you into "The Gig of the Decade" for £300, a sizeable mark-up from £22.50. Once inside, many would have gladly paid £300 to avoid queues. There were 400-yard tailbacks for each bar and toilet. But with the temperature into the 80s and a PA so powerful everyone was guaranteed to leave touched by tinnitus, such matters were of little importance. Oasis took to the stage at 9pm, greeted by a roar so huge that flocks of birds took to the sky from Knebworth's old oaks.

"Hello, hello, hello," Liam said, making a fairly good job of John Lennon's famous "retard" impression. "Let's go." And off they went, kicking out the music that has made the Top 40 truly exciting for the first time in ten years and working hard for the estimated £5.6 million the weekend accrued.

Joined for the inevitable encore of *Champagne Supernova* by The Stone Roses's ex-guitar player John Squire — one of Noel Gallagher's heroes — Oasis bowed out in a blaze of guitar solos and a firework display. As many tired and emotional punters fell over backwards, disorientated from staring at the sky so long, Martin Carr of the Boo Radleys said: "Everyone in Britain — except Damon from Blur — loves Oasis. They can do no wrong." He would appear to be right.

☐ Nine fans were arrested after Saturday's concert, mostly for public order offences when 15,000 tried to board one train at Stevenage.

Yard unit to fight crime at sea

Scotland Yard is creating a seagoing unit with two £100,000 boats. Officers from the Thames division, who usually patrol London rivers, are to be trained to provide back-up for Customs and immigration investigators and navy operations.

The six-man unit is being created because no other agency involved with boarding vessels has full police powers to carry out searches and make arrests. The 20ft rigid inflatable boats will be delivered in the autumn.

Government eye

The Department of Transport uses the most private detectives in Government, according to figures collated by a Labour MP. Last year it spent £477,000 seeking evidence against trespassers on road building sites and on processing legal documents.

MP's boycott

A Tory MP has banned German wines from his hotel in protest at the ban on British beef exports. Warren Hawksley, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge, runs Edderton Hall, near Welshpool, Powys, with his wife Evelyn.

Villages appeal

Four "quintessentially English" villages in Essex are to take their case against plans for 2,000 homes to the Court of Appeal. The parish councils of Birchanger, Felsted, Little Dunmow and Takeley have been overwhelmed by messages of support.

Diver killed

A diver has died while working in the North Sea. Gary Carey, 38, of Okehampton, Devon, was working from the diving support vessel *Discovery* in the Ness field, 190 miles north east of Aberdeen. He was employed by Sub Sea Offshore of Aberdeen.

Alzheimer's aid

A £250,000 laboratory at Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, is to study whether gene flaws hold the key to Alzheimer's disease. Researchers, led by Professor Gordon Wilcock, will also consider environmental and sociological factors. The lab was funded by a donation.

Oates bible

A bible which belonged to Captain Lawrence Oates is expected to fetch about £6,000 at Christie's next month. Oates chose to die rather than delay Scott's 1912 Antarctic expedition. The bible was returned to his family after searchers found the bodies.

Speedboat death

A teenager died when he fell from a speedboat in Loch Lomond yesterday. The 16-year-old was a passenger in the boat, which was being driven by another youth of the same age, who was not injured. A police inquiry is under way.

Ahead by a neck

John Evans, 49, set a world record by balancing 93 milk crates on his head for ten seconds at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. The builder, who has a 23-inch neck measurement, acquired the skill carrying piles of bricks up ladders.

Chipping in

A 5ft mermaid will be carved in a 2½-ton block of granite over the coming weeks at Land's End by Penzance artist Bas Roscoe, in the hope that visiting tourists will contribute to The Mermaid Appeal to build a £500,000 breast-care centre at Truro.

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Army recruiters offer schoolboys a flying start

THE Army began a parachute course for schoolboys yesterday as part of its efforts to attract vitally needed recruits.

With a shortage of 4,000 front-line troops, the Army is seeking to convince teenagers still at school of the excitement and merits of a career in the military. Low birth rates in the 1970s will exacerbate recruiting problems for the Army seeking its new officer class over the next few years.

The Royal Artillery is one unit inviting potential recruits on courses that are demanding and offer a taste of service life. For Ben Stell, from Sedbergh School, Cumbria, the plan works.

He is one of about 20 schoolboys on a five-day parachuting course at the Joint Service Parachute Centre at Netheravon, Wiltshire, organised by the Royal Artillery's recruiting officer, Major Andy Waller.

"I grabbed the opportunity because I have always wanted to know what jumping out of a plane was like," said Ben, 18, of Keighley, West Yorkshire, who plans to study chemistry at Manchester University next year.

"However, I'm now fairly interested in joining the artillery because it is a diverse organisation with things like a parachute unit, commando unit, air defence and field artillery."

Huw Brook, 17, from Bradford Grammar, said the course had stretched everyone mentally and had been a good introduction to army life. "It has certainly made me want to become an officer because you are the person that has to make decisions rather than just doing as you are told," Huw, of Halifax, said.

Although interested in the Artillery, he said his future probably lay in the Royal Engineers or the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, as he planned to study engineering at university. That does not worry Major Waller.

"The important thing is that young people have a look at the Gunners and get a taste of army life. We tell them to go away and look at other regiments to compare and contrast. Hopefully, if they don't join the Royal Artillery, they will at least join the Army — and that is what matters most," he said. He hopes to reach other schools "because we are going to have to work even harder to satisfy our recruiting needs."

Desperate attempts at revival lasted three hours

Five teenagers drown in car crash at holiday camp

By Lin Jenkins

FIVE youths died yesterday when their car overturned and landed upside down in a dyke at a holiday caravan park.

The youths, aged between 14 and 18, who apparently had been staying in a hotel, had been visiting friends who were on a camping holiday at the park, near Skegness, Lincolnshire. Their Montego car crashed through a small wooden fence and flipped over as they drove out of the caravan site shortly before 5am.

A sixth youth in the car, who had suffered minor injuries, managed to clamber out after winding down a window. He was released from hospital in Skegness yesterday. Friends travelling in a second car who were leaving at the same time fought to free those trapped as the car disappeared under 4 ft of water in the 20ft wide drainage ditch.

Holidaymakers on the Coral Beach caravan site at Ingoldmells helped in the rescue.

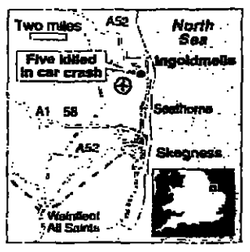
Police arrived at the scene within four minutes, leapt into the water and pulled two teenagers clear. One of those pulled out died in hospital.

The officers were joined by firefighters and ambulance crews and the remaining youths were dragged from the car. Lengthy attempts were made to resuscitate the youths, lasting, in one case, three hours, but without success.

All the teenagers were on holiday from Leicester. Police said that they would release their names today after the families had formally identified the bodies.

Ivy Savage, who was staying on the site, was woken by the crash and looked out. "I saw one lad get out from the water on his own – I saw him climbing up the bank. He was in a mess. I think he thought he could go back in and save them but he couldn't."

Jean Twells, whose caravan overlooks the drain, said: "I heard a terrific bang. Then I



saw the wheels of a car, which was upside down, sinking into the water. A chap was on the bank shouting for people with mobile phones to get help. He was hysterical. He said it was his car."

Mrs Twells said that the police had tried to turn the car, so that the teenagers could be pulled out. "Soon after, they managed to break one of the windows and they tried to drag the people out. They put them on plastic sheets and did their best for them but it was obvious it was too late."

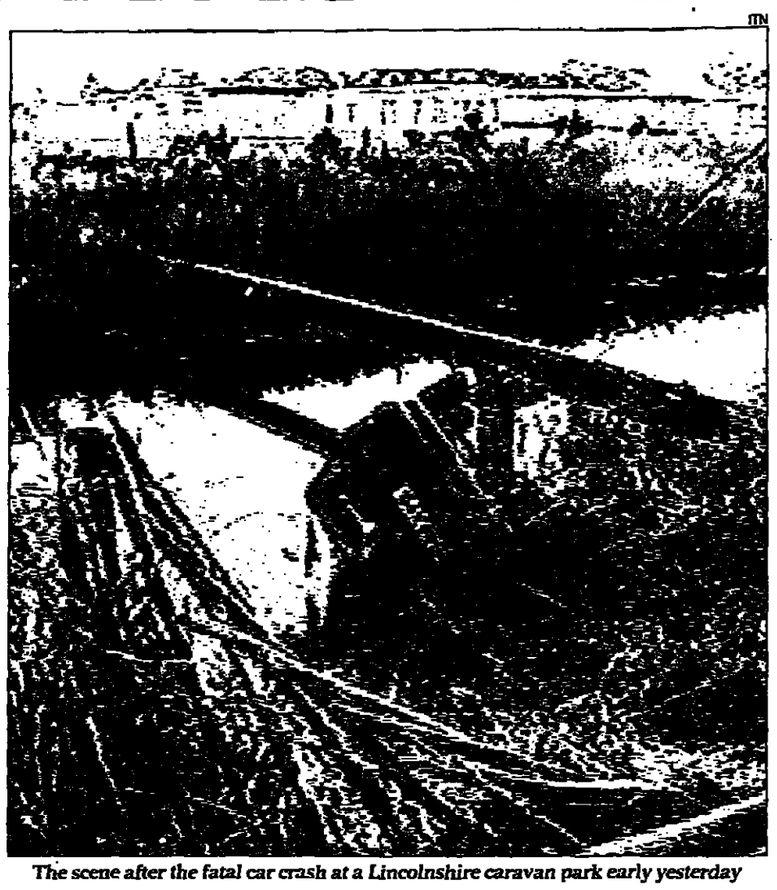
Isabelle Belton, a director of the park, which has 1,000 caravans, said that it had been troubled by teenagers speeding in cars after leaving raves at the nearby Fantasy Island.

However, Inspector Les Parker, of Lincolnshire Police, said he believed that the boys had been with friends on the caravan park, possibly after finding themselves locked out of their hotel.

He said he had no reason to believe that they had been to a rave at Fantasy Island. "As far as we know, six young lads who had been staying on the site for some reason were in their car intending to leave when they failed to negotiate a junction.

"There was another group of lads in a car and they were trying to rescue their friends when we arrived. They're all very, very shaken, and very upset, and they've all been taken home."

Officers have been testing skid marks at the scene to assess the car's speed. They were also planning to speak to the dead youths' friends on the site later yesterday.



The scene after the fatal car crash at a Lincolnshire caravan park early yesterday

Rally will mark first fatal road accident

THE 100th anniversary of the first road death in Britain will be marked this week by a rally in London.

Bridget Driscoll, of Croydon, south London, was knocked down by a car on August 17, 1896. At the inquest into Mrs Driscoll's death, the coroner expressed the hope that such a thing would never happen again.

On Saturday, a procession led by relatives of road accident victims and others injured in crashes will start from Gipsy Hill station. Dressed in black and carrying photographs of those who died, they will march to Crystal Palace park where Mrs Driscoll died to lay a wreath.

RoadPeace, a charity for road accident victims, said that since Mrs Driscoll's death, at least 500,000 people had been killed and 30 million injured on the roads. Ten people die and 800 are injured every day. The Government has set a target of reducing road casualties by one third by 2000 compared with the average for 1981-85.

Scottish nets pose fresh risk to porpoises

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

FISHERMEN in Scotland have been given clearance to use nets that will kill thousands of porpoises, a species the Government has committed itself to protecting. The order permitting the use of the nets comes into force today amid a chorus of criticism from animal rights and environmental groups.

"This is the worst possible thing that could have been done," says Mark Simmonds of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society. "The Government is meant to be protecting the species, not allowing the use of nets which will kill it."

On July 23, two days before Parliament rose, the Inshore Monofilament Gill Net Order was laid by the Scottish Office. It allows Scottish fishermen to use large mesh nets which form a "curtain" rising from the sea bed. The nets are set and left, the fishermen returning later to lift the catch of turbot, halibut and monkfish.

Among them are certain to be many harbour porpoises, the smallest of Britain's dolphins. The porpoises get caught in the mesh and suffocate. They are mammals and need to surface to breathe.

Scottish fishermen have not been permitted to use these nets for the past decade, to restore salmon populations. What has astonished the wildlife charities is that their use is being allowed just four months after John Gummer, environment secretary, endorsed the US Biodiversity Action Plan, which identifies the harbour porpoise as a species in decline and requiring special protection.

The Scottish Office says that the Marine Laboratory in Aberdeen advised that these nets were no more dangerous to porpoises than others. The order allows their use only outside the six-mile limit, to protect inshore creatures including porpoises.

Fishermen will have to record "bycatches" — species caught by accident — and send the figures to Aberdeen. But the wildlife groups have no doubt that these will include many porpoises.

Research in Danish fisheries in the North Sea recorded an annual catch of 7,000 harbour porpoises in large mesh gill nets. Figures from the environment department show that 38 per cent of the porpoises washed up dead in English and Welsh waters have died in fishing nets.

"We condemn the Government's hypocrisy in trumpeting its launch of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan while extending the use of these deadly nets which threaten one of the very species they claim to protect," says Helen McLachlan, Senior Scientific Officer of the RSPCA.

Porpoise: campaigners say Government has reneged

Successful summer for sex-swap wader

By Michael Hornsby

ONE of Britain's rarest birds, the red-necked phalarope, has had its most successful breeding season in almost 30 years. At least 40 pairs of the waders, which seldom grow more than six inches long, nested on the Shetland island of Fetlar this year, according to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The island's colony is estimated to represent 90 per cent of the British population, nearly all in the Shetland Islands. Phalaropes have been declining in Britain for more than a century because of human disturbance and loss of habitat, and reached a low of no more than 12 pairs in the 1980s.

David Minns, of the RSPB in Edinburgh, said: "We have used mechanical diggers to enlarge the area of breeding pools and introduced grazing by Shetland ponies to keep marshy vegetation

Red-necked phalarope

down to the height that best suits the birds."

Most of a phalarope's life is spent at sea in the South Atlantic or in the Arabian Gulf, but during the summer it returns to land to breed, mostly in the Arctic regions of Iceland, Norway, Russia and Canada. Northern Britain lies at the limit of the birds' breeding range.

Phalaropes are noted for their reversal of the normal sex roles. The more brightly coloured females initiate courtship and change mates every few days, leaving the discarded male to incubate the eggs and raise the chicks.

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The Antonine Wall may have been designed to generate military success for political gain in Rome

Vanishing remains of an emperor's highland fling

By Alan Hamilton

HARDLY had Hadrian completed the building of his mighty wall from Tyne to Solway than his successor as emperor, Antoninus Pius, declared it redundant. Such is the fate of grandiose strategic defence initiatives, whether launched by ancient emperors or Ronald Reagan.

Antoninus decreed that the frontier of the empire should move some 75 miles to the north; he ordered the construction of a new wall from the Forth to the Clyde. At 36 miles it was less than half the length of Hadrian's and of turf rather than stone, but was still a massive work of engineering which involved detachments of all three British legions in its construction.

Built to a height of 9ft, the Antonine Wall was surmounted by a timber patrol-walk, adding another 5ft. As the toiling gangs began and finished their allotted sections they carved and installed intricate commemorative stones and some splendid examples survive in the Hunterian Museum of the University of Glasgow.

Like its bigger and older brother, the Antonine Wall was accompanied along its entire length by a massive ditch, the *vallum*, 40ft wide and at least 12ft deep, and to its rear ran a military road.

Although virtually nothing now stands above ground, the Antonine's mounds, ditches and fort foundations leave a visible trail all across the dour and unattractive central belt of Scotland, from Bo'ness on the Forth west of Edinburgh, to Old Kilpatrickon the northern Clyde shore near Dumbarton. After Hadrian's Wall, the Antonine is the largest Roman footprint remaining in Britain and one of the least known.

When the fortification was completed in AD 142, Hadrian's Wall was abandoned and its garrison moved up to the new frontier to be housed in a line of 19 forts along the turf wall, the soldiery doubtless muttering at being moved to an even colder billet.

Northern Britain was forever a thorn in the imperial side and the forces of Rome, for all their numerical strength and organisation, never subjugated it. In the early years of occupation, General Julius Agricola had made a determined effort to tame the wild Caledonians, defeating them in AD 81 at the mysterious battle of Mons Graupius, the location of which is unknown but is assumed, on no great evidence, to have been under the hill of Bennachie, near Inverurie, Aberdeenshire.

But the highlanders did not take their beating lying down. What spurred Antoninus to move the frontier is not clear. It is likely that southern Scotland was living at peace with its conquerors, while further north the mountain tribes were harrying the legions; there is no shortage of evidence for Roman marching camps in the Highlands as far north as Aberdeen and there is a particularly fine example at Ardoch, near Braco, north of Stirling.

It is equally likely that the Caledonians were having a brief respite from doing anything at all, but that Antoninus, like so many politicians before and since, needed a military victory somewhere in the empire to boost his standing at home. General Lollius Urbicus was the man sent to do the job, and the Romans built a fine road, Dere Street, to service the harbours near Edinburgh. The route was roughly that taken by the modern A68 through Bishop Auckland, and the A696 through Jedburgh.

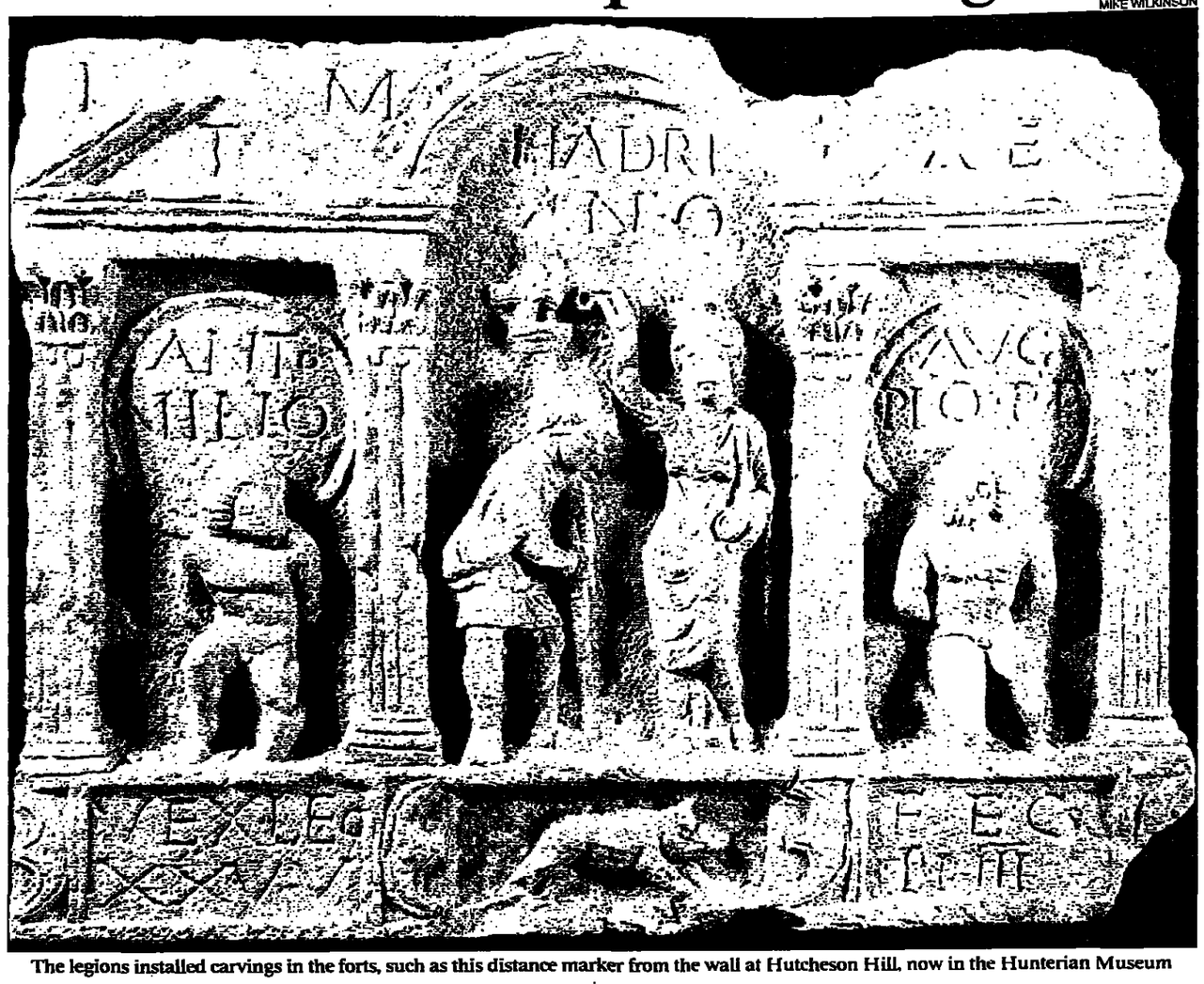
Whatever the reason, the useful life of the Antonine Wall was brief. Within 20 years it had been abandoned, and the garrison re-established on Hadrian's Wall; as likely because of a change of frontier policy dictated from the far distance of Rome as a because the Caledonians gained the upper hand.

Rome continued to fight the northerners well into the fourth century, by which time the empire was fraying at the edges under the onslaught of Picts, Gauls, Franks and others from beyond the pale. But by that time the Antonine Wall was as irrelevant as the trenches of the Somme against the advance of Hitler.

Dr Lawrence Keppie, reader in Roman archaeology at the University of Glasgow, finds it one of the most commonly held misconceptions that the Romans never got beyond Hadrian's Wall. He also finds widely differing attitudes to that period of history: "In southern Scotland and the borders, they take pride in their Roman history. But in the north there is more hostility to them as imperial aggressors rather than bringers of civilisation. It is all tangled up with Scottish nationalism."

They have long memories, these Highlanders.

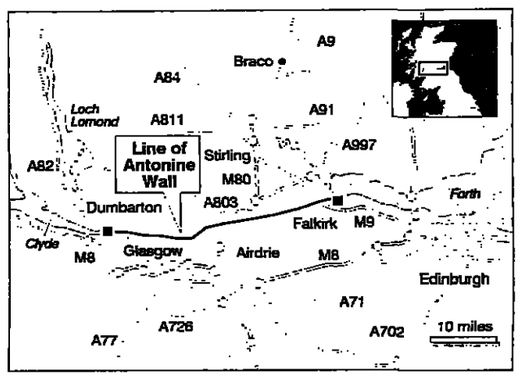
Dr Lawrence Keppie with altar from wall



MIKE WILKINSON

The legions installed carvings in the forts, such as this distance marker from the wall at Hutcheson Hill, now in the Hunterian Museum

Tomorrow: Silchester and Lullingstone



Tracing footsteps of the legions

By Alan Hamilton

TRACING the entire length of the Antonine Wall requires some detective work and a good map, but three principal sites are readily accessible. Start with the excellent collection from the wall at the Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow, Gilmorehill, Glasgow (Mon-Sat, 9.30-5, closed Sun, admission free). Pick up a trail leaflet and a copy of *The Antonine Wall* by Anne Robertson (Glasgow Archaeological Society, £4.50).

For the wall itself, take the A81 to Bearsden in Glasgow where, amid housing near Grange Road, are the substantial remains of a bath house that formed part of one of the wall's forts.

To see how the wall commanded a panoramic view to the north, take the A803 northeast from Glasgow and, just beyond Kirkintilloch, turn right on the B8023 for Twechar to reach the fort of Bar Hill, the highest of the wall. The line of the wall is clearly visible 60 yards to the north and there is an information board provided by Historic Scotland.

The mounds and ditches of the wall survive particularly well — up to 5ft high in places — in the region of Rough Castle, among the best-preserved of the forts. Return to the A803 from Bar Hill at Kilsyth, go about 7 miles north-east to Bonnybridge, and turn right on the B816.

If you still have an appetite for ditches, a visit to the fort at Ardoch is rewarding. It is in the village of Braco, 12 miles north of Stirling (A9 to Greenloaning, then A822 to Braco).

But some of the finest Roman remains in Scotland are at present maddeningly out of reach. For such gems as the Traprain Treasure, silver from East Lothian, you will have to await the opening of the Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh in November 1998.

Popular intellectual to succeed Odone at Catholic Herald

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

A WOMAN who once thought she might become a nun has been appointed Editor of the *Catholic Herald*. She is likely to prove a stark contrast to her predecessor, the high-profile Christina Odone.

Deborah Jones, 48, the deputy editor of *Priests & People*, a highly rated Roman Catholic monthly journal, will take over in October from acting editor Harry Coen, a respected national newspaper journalist who did not apply for the job. Like her predecessor, Miss Jones is a single woman with no children, but there the similarities end.

Miss Odone published a novel this year, called *The Shrine*, about an Italian girl who has religious visions. Known to Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, as the "Odd One", she once said: "My God, I'd love to have sex 9,000 times a day with 6,000 people."

Miss Jones, meanwhile, is author of a seminal work on adult education, which is an annual sellout to adults who want to convert to Catholicism. In it she writes: "Personal relationships involve a morality which is consistent with Christ-like behaviour. Really loving relationships between men and women require a high degree of generosity, constancy ... Fortunes are rarely made from promoting such qualities as these."

She warns: "The deep anxieties which many, particularly young people, have about sex makes them easy prey for those who can exploit these fears and turn them into cash ... Love, for a Christian, is not a game, a contest or a chance to dominate."

Miss Jones's appointment, due to be announced officially next week, is being welcomed within the church, where bishops speak warmly of her high intellect and integrity. She is an ardent advocate of the modern church reforms introduced by the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. Her friends insist that she will "have no truck" with traditionalists who want to turn back the clock.

Besides working for *Priests & People*, Miss Jones is in charge of Catholic adult education for the East Anglia diocese. She also works on the diocesan programme for receiving adults into the church.

Miss Jones also serves on the bishops' conference committee for theology and is co-chair of the Association of Adult Religious Educators.

She did not apply to be Editor of the *Herald* but was headhunted after her name was recommended to Otto Herschan, chairman of the independent trust that owns the newspaper. According to friends, she was thoroughly surprised by the approach and, being content with her current work, considered deeply before taking the job.

She intends to commission articles from bishops and other church leaders on church affairs, as well as features on world affairs from informed lay men and women. She is known to be critical of recent *Herald* articles such as that by novelist Alice Thomas Ellis, who attacked the ecumenical record of the late Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock.

An insider at the *Herald* said: "We are all delighted. She is tremendously impressive and wonderfully stable, with a lively and independent mind. She is not simply knowledgeable, but has a very careful and considered view which will put her firmly in the great tradition of all the paper's former great editors."

Odone: referred to by Hume as the "Odd One"

Bathing on beach at Paris? Ah yes, I remember it well

By Harvey Elliott, Travel Correspondent

BRITISH ignorance of geography was claimed yesterday to have reached new heights with a poll showing that only 35 per cent could correctly identify a picture of Blackpool Tower. The rest thought it was the Eiffel Tower, despite the presence of sea and sunbathers on a beach.

The finding was made more puzzling by the fact that 54 per cent considered Paris to be Europe's most romantic city. Perhaps their visits to the French capital were too occupied with romance for them to develop a closer knowledge of the sights.

The travel company Insight International Tours announced the figures from a random sample of 500 men and women. Italy was voted the best European country for an escape holiday, with the backing of 51 per cent. Less than half knew that the leaning tower of Pisa was in Italy, but 87 per cent correctly identified the country as the original home of the pizza.

On the basic geography of Europe's rivers, 39 per cent knew that the Seine was in France, 36 per cent knew that the Rhine went through Germany and only 9 per cent could name the countries on the route of the River Danube.

When it came to politics, Tony Blair was recognised by 62 per cent of those questioned, Helmut Kohl by 21 per cent and Jacques Chirac by 17 per cent.

☐ The number of foreign visitors to Britain has slowed perceptively over the past few months. The British Incoming Tour Operators' Association had predicted that the number of people coming to spend a holiday in this country would grow by around 9 per cent between April and June, but the actual increase proved to be no more than 4.5 per cent.

☐ The average cost of a night in a luxury London hotel is now £212.26, producing an annual operating profit of £38,635 per room, according to the latest Horwarth hotels survey. The average price of a London room was said to be £103.56, against £43.30 for the rest of England.

Appeal honours debt to Indians who served in war

By Alan Hamilton

MEMORIES of last August's VJ-Day celebrations, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War in the Far East, have struck an unexpected chord with the British public.

A radio appeal by Lord Weatherill, the former Speaker of the House of Commons, for donations to help destitute old soldiers of the Indian Army who volunteered to fight for King George VI against the Japanese has raised £65,000 — and the cheques are still coming in.

Lord Weatherill was speaking on BBC Radio 4's *The Week's Good Cause*. The BBC said yesterday that the amount was more than double the average raised by the radio appeal slot, which gives a platform to a different charity each week.

More than 2.5 million volunteers from what are now India, Pakistan and Bangladesh rallied to the Allied cause between 1941 and 1945: some 100,000 were killed or wounded and 31 won VCs, the highest number in any army. Lord Weatherill himself served for four years in the Indian Army, as a captain in the 19th King George V's Own Lancers.

The money is being distributed by the British Commonwealth Ex-Services' League, the London-based charity of last resort founded by Earl Haig of Bemersyde in 1921 to make emergency payments to destitute Commonwealth veterans and their dependants who are not entitled to receive British Army pensions or charity funds.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sam Pope, a former Royal Marine who will become the league's next secretary-general, said yesterday: "The response has been magnificent. We are wading through 400 letters of support, many of them from retired Indian Army officers now living in Britain.

"But the need is great: the Indian veterans are now very old, ill and unable to work, many are living in conditions of the greatest poverty and starvation in the slums of Calcutta and they are suffering the effects of inflation in India."

Lieutenant-Colonel Pope said that they had hoped optimistically for £30,000 from the radio appeal and had been astonished by the response. "Older people know what Commonwealth participation in the Second World War was all about. Perhaps the VJ celebrations in London last year brought it home to a younger generation," he said.

Among those who have already been helped by the appeal are Gopal Das, formerly of the Indian Artillery, who is now in his seventies and living under an outside staircase in Calcutta with the good fortune of access to a water tap. The league has given him a few pounds to buy food and oddments of clothing.

Another is Amiya Kaur, a former warrant officer in the Indian Women's Auxiliary Corps, who is now too old to work and relies on charity to support herself, a totally disabled sister and a mentally ill brother.

The league believes that there are nearly five million Commonwealth veterans or their dependants around the world — half of them on the Indian subcontinent. Last year it paid out nearly £200,000 in small grants to the most needy, but it fears that its limited funds may not see it through the next ten years, when it expects calls for help to be at their greatest.

Recently the league, whose president is the Duke of Edinburgh, applied to the National Lottery Charities' Board for £2 million, but was turned down on the ground that the money would have been spent abroad in contravention of lottery rules.

Now, however, the lottery has said that it will release £25 million in its next round of awards in January to be spent on overseas projects. On behalf of a whole legion of destitute old soldiers of the King, Lieutenant-Colonel Pope will be getting in his application early.

Britain lends America an ear in the hunt for alien life

By Anjana Ahuja

BRITAIN is about to join the United States in the hunt for alien life. Scientists at Jodrell Bank, site of the country's largest radio telescope, are holding talks with the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence Institute in California, which wants to search the skies above Britain for alien radio signals.

The collaboration will widen the net in the hunt for other civilisations, which has been given added impetus by the evidence last week that primitive life may have existed on Mars.

Professor Frank Drake, president of the SETI Institute at Mountain View, near San Francisco, said: "British scientists have always been rather conservative in their views about extra-terrestrial life but they have a brilliant record in radio astronomy, so we are thrilled at the prospect of doing something together."

He said that SETI researchers would visit Jodrell Bank, in Cheshire, over several months to make observations with the 76-metre Lovell radio telescope. The incoming signals would be analysed to filter out Earth-based noise, such as from mobile telephones and microwave ovens.

Andrew Lyne, professor of astronomy at Manchester University, which operates the telescope, confirmed that negotiations were under way. The project would be likely to take place within the next two years, before a possible upgrade of the telescope in 1998. "We would provide the telescope and sensitive receivers, and the SETI Institute would provide the expertise to look at the signals," Professor Lyne said.

A joint project was mooted ten years ago but, because the technology was relatively basic, it was almost impossible to distinguish genuine alien signals from terrestrial noise: "Now scientists can sort the wheat from the chaff," he said.

Professor Lyne agreed that the news about Mars last week had stirred interest in such projects: "Our *raison d'être* is to further research into the universe as a whole and the question of other civilisations is of great public interest. Now, possibly, the time is right."

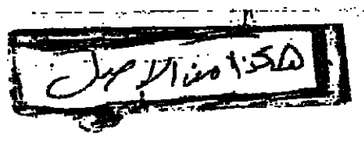
Nasa first proposed the idea of combing space for alien signals in the 1970s. The greatest hope of a breakthrough came in 1977, when a mysterious signal was detected by scientists at Ohio State University. It was nicknamed the "Wow" signal after an excited researcher scribbled the exclamation on a printout. The signal was never detected again nor explained satisfactorily, although scientists are sure it was of intelligent origin.

Three years ago budget pressure led the United States Congress to withdraw funding from the search for alien life-forms. The SETI Institute was set up as a distinct organisation with similar aims in 1984 and is financed by private donations.

As well as being president of the SETI Institute, Professor Drake holds a chair in astronomy and astrophysics at the University of California, Santa Cruz. In 1960 he became the first astronomer to scan the skies for extra-terrestrial signals.

Jodrell Bank's expertise in radio astronomy will be combined with America's ability to analyse signals

Mind and Matter, page 11



Tory Euro jitters save duty-frees from dustbin of history

THIS WEEK IN EUROPE

If you happen to be holidaying in Europe and have a few spare seconds when stuck in a duty-free checkout queue behind a line of tanned shopaholics with overflowing wire trolleys, try asking yourself a question. Why does "duty-free" still exist?

Search me. The single market means — at the very least — abolishing tax frontiers on goods going to and fro in the European Union. Allowing travellers to buy tax-free perfume, whisky and tobacco in planes or the floating supermarkets otherwise known as cross-Channel ferries makes no sense at all. Fixing "allowances" for each traveller, as Britain does, piles lunacy on idiocy. Next time you watch customs officers unpacking the 800 cans of lager that a minivan driver claims he bought for "personal use", remember that the officers could be spending their time rooting out real crime such as heroin smuggling.

No one disputes that duty-free is an anachronistic nonsense, not even the duty-free people themselves. "Duty and tax-free has no intrinsic logic," says the Duty-Free Confederation with brazen candour, before adding "but it works for the benefit of all."

The formidably well-focused confederation has outperformed most of its rivals in the arm-twisting stakes in Brussels by delaying the abolition of duty-free from the EU until 1999. Its lobbyists hope to push even that deadline away into the next century. The anti-Brussels mood inside the Tory Party helps. The European Commission confirmed last month that duty-free would disappear three years from now; to judge by the ensuing fuss, you might imagine that the mild Italian Commissioner, Mario Monti, had suggested abolishing the Union Jack, dynamiting the Houses of Parliament and putting up a statue to Jacques Delors in Trafalgar Square.

Tory MPs fulminated. "Destruction of British interests," groaned Bill Cash. "Lunatic act of bureaucracy," rumbled his colleague, Sir Gerard Vaughan. Only the chairman of the Tory backbench finance committee, John Townend, who happens to be a wine merchant, saw the point. "Phasing-out in the long term is probably a good thing," he said cautiously, "but it will be unpopular."

Even Mr Townend has forgotten that a long-term phase-out was exactly what EU ministers decided back in 1992, when duty-free should have disappeared into the dustbin of history. Back in the 1980s a Conservative British Commissioner in Brussels, Lord Cockfield, thought politicians should face up to a little unpopularity for the sake of a principle, frontier-free trade, which Tories say they back.

Turn the pages of the 1992 edition of *The Times Guide to the Single European Market* and you will find two of my colleagues noting: "Everyone involved in the duty-free industry accepts that abolition is merely a question of time."

Airport and ferry shops were adapting. Dublin airport was even then selling more black silk lingerie than most department stores in the city because the retailers had spotted that the men who bought it for wives and girlfriends spent a lot of time in airports but practically none in city centre underwear shops.

Duty-free began as a perk for sailors, allowed to buy cheap drink and tobacco to alleviate long, rough journeys. Around 200 years later, the UK industry sells £1 billion of goods a year and says almost three-quarters of that would be lost if the EU ended the system. The tax break given by the Government puts sales revenue in the pockets of airports: 40 per cent of all pre-tax profits in places such as Birmingham and Newcastle. So the Government is cross-subsidising the airport industry. But it could more logically give a tax break to help the turnover of shops in depressed areas such as Liverpool or the Isle of Wight. Airlines have been begging government for years to make arrangements which don't force them to fly heavy cargoes of flammable and unnecessary duty-free alcohol in passenger jets.

The survival of the duty-free industry is a testimony to the Government's terror of all debate about Europe — and holds it hostage to an industry so dyslexic that it couldn't read the writing on the wall.

GEORGE BROCK

Lebed seeks truce as thousands flee carnage in Grozny

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

ALEKSANDR LEBED, the Kremlin's security chief and newly appointed troubleshooter on Chechenia, flew to the Caucasus yesterday on a mission to end the worst fighting in Grozny in more than a year.

As fierce battles raged for a sixth day between thousands of separatist rebels and heavily reinforced Russian troops for control of the Chechen capital, there were concerns that the breakaway republic was on the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe unless a ceasefire could be imposed.

Thousands of refugees from Grozny, many clutching white flags, poured out of the city, braving sniper fire and renewed heavy artillery barrages in an effort to reach safety and search for desperately needed food, water and medical supplies.

In the shattered Chechen capital repeated attempts by Russian forces to flush out the insurgents appeared to have made little headway, as casualty figures for the Russians climbed to as many as 200 dead and 800 injured.

During fighting yesterday the rebels claimed to have wiped out a column of Russian armour just outside the city, killing 150 soldiers. Witnesses in the capital could not confirm the claim, but they did report that heavy street fighting was under way and that the rebels appeared to be digging in for a prolonged action. One report said that the Chechens had a free hand through large parts of Grozny and were even using captured Russian soldiers to build trenches and other defences.

Some military experts believe that the Russians are virtually in the same position as in January 1995, when they launched a month-long siege to force the rebels out of Grozny, an operation which left thousands dead and destroyed most of the city.

Reports from the region contrasted sharply with the official version of events in Moscow, where General Igor Rodionov, the Defence Minister, told parliament on Saturday that the "situation was difficult" but that "the initiative has passed to the federal forces".

The military's latest act of incompetence prompted President Yeltsin to give a warning of disciplinary actions being taken against those in the security forces responsible for "gross miscalculations".

The remark was a reference to the dismal performance of Russian forces on the ground, who were taken by surprise in last week's rebel offensive, even though the assault had been widely expected to coincide with the Russian leader's inauguration on Friday.

Mr Yeltsin, who postponed his holiday to hold crisis meetings yesterday with top aides, first acted against Oleg Lobov, a long-time confidant. He was replaced as the Kremlin's representative on Chechenia by General Lebed, the gruff former paratrooper who has long advocated a peaceful settlement with the Chechens.

His mission appeared to get off to a good start since he won the backing of the Chechen rebel leadership and, possibly more importantly, the support of key figures in Moscow.

Over the weekend, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who was confirmed as Prime Minister by the Duma, the lower house of parliament, said the former paratrooper was the only man for the job. "Lebed is a military man, he is used to tackling these sorts of problems," Mr Chernomyrdin said. "I am sure that he will cope with the task. He simply must do this."

Movladi Udugov, the Chechen separatist spokesman, was less enthusiastic, but said that the rebels would give him the benefit of the doubt. "If General Lebed fulfills his electoral promises, then we can only welcome him," he said. "We will do all we can so Russian state interests are preserved in the Caucasus and Chechenia and Russia get out of this war while saving face."

Although in principle both sides would like to reactivate the Nazran agreement signed in June, which calls for a ceasefire and the gradual demilitarisation of the republic, the deal was easier said than done.

On his way down to neighbouring Dagestan yesterday, General Lebed must have known that by travelling to the seat of the fire he is taking upon himself a dangerous mission. As several ministers, military commanders and top diplomats have already learnt to their cost, getting into Chechenia is much easier than getting out.

☐ **Dublin:** The European Union has expressed serious concern at the situation in Chechenia and appealed to the Russian Army and separatist rebels to cease fire immediately. The Irish Government, current holders of the EU presidency, said the Union "deplores in particular the ensuing civilian casualties and the suffering that a continuation of the violence is causing to the Chechen people." It also called for measures to ensure the safety of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe assistance group in Chechenia. *(Reuter)*

A Chechen fighter dashes between stalls at the central market in Grozny, where renewed fighting has raged for six days

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rome air security 'is faulty'

Rome: Italian officials yesterday said that security at Rome and Milan airports was "of a high international standard" despite an Interior Ministry report which found that a large number of X-ray machines for checking hand baggage were faulty and outdated (Richard Owen writes).

According to *Il Messaggero*, security agents hid knives and handguns inside hand luggage, but the scanning machines failed to detect them.

Rallies disrupted

Tuzla: Gangs apparently organised by the ruling Muslim party and backed by police disrupted opposition parties' rallies at Gradacac and Kalesija and forced the cancellation of one in Celic. *(AP)*

Peking offer

Hong Kong: China seems to be offering an olive branch to Hong Kong democrats by hinting they can join the selection process for the territory's leader after Chinese rule restarts next year. *(Reuter)*

Seen and gone

Sofia: Granny Vanga, 85, a Bulgarian psychic whose prophetic powers won her admirers across the Balkans and beyond, died of cancer. Relatives said she had predicted the time of her death. *(Reuter)*

Diet puts extra life into Japan

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

THE Japanese are outliving the rest of the world largely due to a diet heavy in fish, seaweed and soyabean curd, supplemented by Western food.

The Health and Welfare Ministry reported that last year's life expectancy for Japanese women was 82.84 years, and for men was 76.36. The women took top place in the longevity charts for the eleventh consecutive year, and the men for a tenth year running.

In longevity for women, Sweden came second at 81.38 years, followed by Hong Kong's 81.16 years. Sweden was also second in the men's league at 76.08 years and Hong Kong third at 75.84 years. Britain and the US were well outstripped by Japan.

Fatal Spanish campsite 'flouted building rules'

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN BIESCAS

THE Spanish campsite in which 83 people were killed in a flash flood last week was illegally built, a newspaper has claimed.

El Mundo said yesterday that Camping Las Nieves, near Biescas in northern Spain, "was situated in a place forbidden by law". A regional law prohibits the establishment of campsites in "dry beds of streams and rivers, or in any area susceptible to flooding". Camping Las Nieves was in the middle of the dry bed of the Arás stream, which overflowed last Wednesday washing people, tents, caravans and cars into the nearby Gállego river. Forty people are still unaccounted for.

The Green Party has called for the regional Aragón authorities to be prosecuted for negligence, as well as for legal action to be taken against the local water board, which owns the freehold on the land where the campsite was built.

Under intense pressure from the press, Margarita Mariscal de Gante, the Minister for Justice, announced yesterday that the chief magistrate of Huesca, the province in which the campsite was situated, would begin his investigations "shortly".

Rafael Zapatero, the councillor for tourism of the regional administration, has sought to defend the siting by saying that "a flood of this intensity could happen in the area only once every 1,000 years, at most". However, in 1940 there was a flood of similar proportions in exactly the same place, in which a bus was washed away.

Other evidence is beginning to emerge, which could help survivors or relatives of the dead who wish to sue the regional government. The Aragón High Court had in 1989 ordered a halt to the building of a campsite nearby, as it was deemed to be in an area of "high risk". In spite of that decision, the regional officials chose not to revoke the licence of Camping Las Nieves, built in 1988.

When the proprietor of Camping Las Nieves submitted his application for a licence in 1986, a geologist said that the site was unsuitable and recommended refusal, but his report was ignored by the regional authorities.

The final piece of negligence would appear to be the failure by the regional authorities on Wednesday to alert the town council of Biescas, which oversees the campsite, of the firm warning it had received from the meteorological office of "storms and extremely heavy downpours" in that precise area.

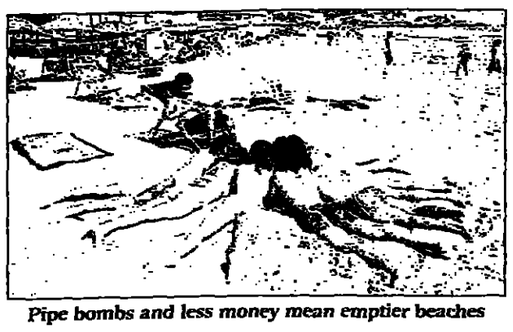
Hard-up Italians holiday at home

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

AS MILLIONS of Italians yesterday began the annual exodus to the coast, police stepped up their hunt for the "Unabomber of the beaches", who has planted crude home-made pipe bombs inside furled beach umbrellas at Adriatic resorts near Trieste.

The bombs have come at a bad time for the Italian tourist industry, facing profits well down on last year. Hoteliers are cutting prices to entice visitors to seaside and mountain resorts. Economic belt-tightening is leading to changing holiday patterns, with many Italians opting for summer in the city, enjoying traffic-free streets and rediscovering Italy's wealth of art treasures.

The Adriatic incidents are confined to a small area, and one of the bombs, at Bibione, failed to go off. But another exploded last week at Lignano, seriously injuring a sunbather. The Mayor of Lignano, Stefano Trabalzo, assured holidaymakers that his "golden sands" resort was "not Atlanta", a reference to the much larger pipe bomb that exploded during the Olympic Games.



Pipe bombs and less money mean emptier beaches

An estimated 15 million cars clogged the roads out of Italy's major cities yesterday as families marked the start of Ferragosto, the traditional mid-August break. But tourist authorities reported that bookings in many hotels and campsites were 20 to 30 per cent down on last year.

Utility companies confirmed domestic use of electricity, gas and water in urban areas was much higher than usual as people stayed put despite the heat. Some shops and restaurants which normally close, turning Rome and Milan into ghost towns, have stayed open.

The "Adriatic Unabomber" has certainly not helped. Newspapers yesterday carried pictures of police searching under beach deckchairs with metal detectors. One police theory is that the "mad umbrella dynamiter", as the Italian press has dubbed him, is a solitary campaigner against hedonism and capitalism's excesses in the mould of the American Unabomber.

Police also fear "copycat" bombings after the discovery yesterday of hoax pipe bombs on beaches near Venice.

But the main reason for the change in holiday habits is economic. The new centre-left Government of Professor Romano Prodi, which took office in May, has begun to get a grip on the economy, reducing inflation and the bduget deficit. But economists say the "feel-good factor" has yet to take hold.

Media reports that excessive sunbathing can lead to cancer and infertility are also having an effect, as are reports that seawater quality at many of Italy's popular Mediterranean and Adriatic resorts fall below European Union environmental standards.

Il Messaggero yesterday predicted one positive side-effect of the changing pattern. Normally, it said, "when city dwellers go away to relax, the burglars get to work".

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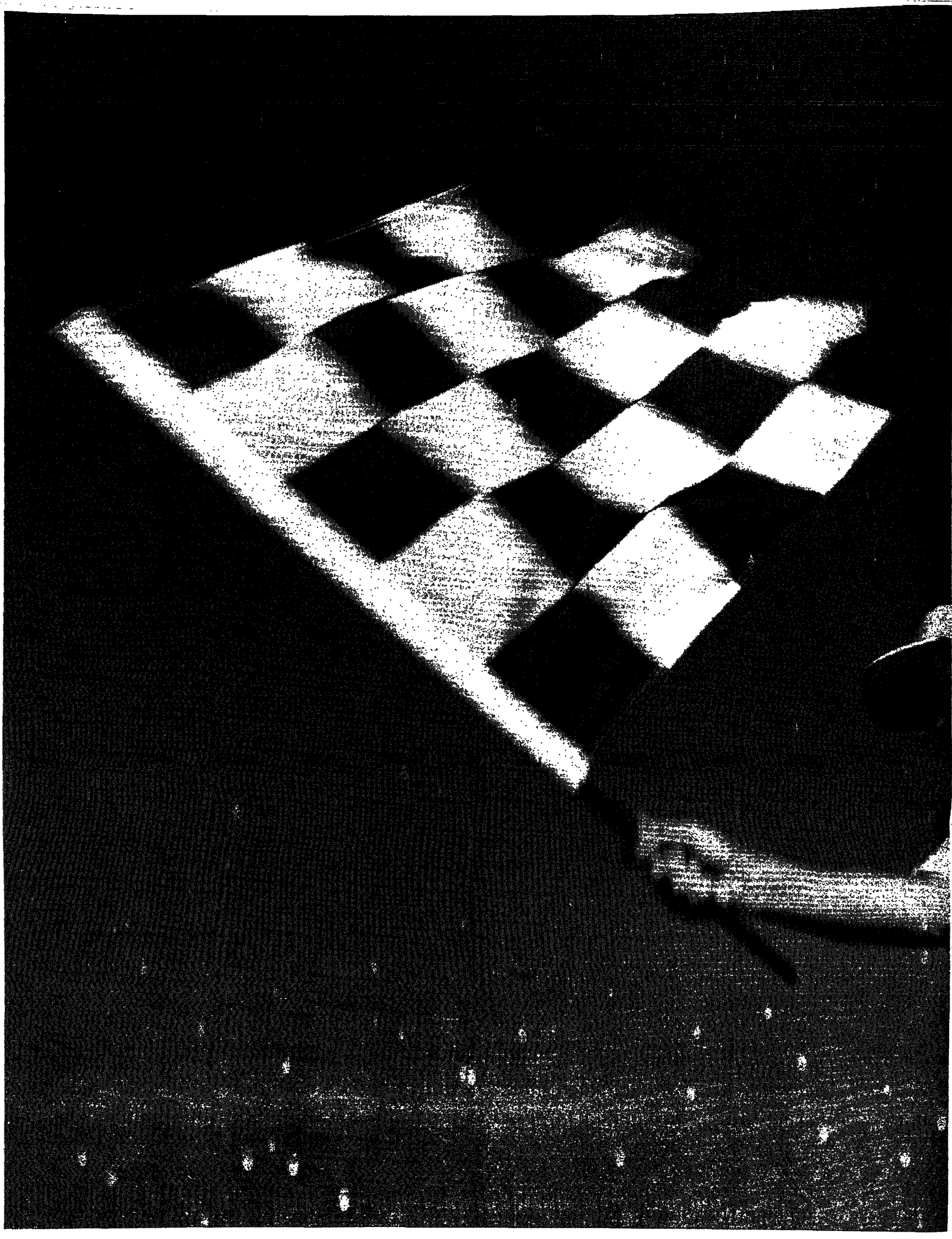
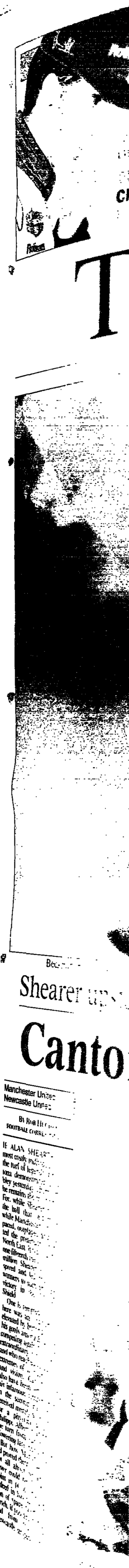


The Audi quattro was the only car to carry a 95kg handicap. Here's the result.

The standard weight penalty for a four wheel drive car in the Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car Championship is 65kg. So it came as quite a surprise when, in an effort to give everyone else a chance, the Audi A4 quattro was asked to carry a further 30kg penalty. The combined equivalent of a 15 stone passenger. But with a car as good as the A4 quattro you don't take offence, you just keep taking the flag.

Audi
Vorsprung durch Technik



Shearer

Canto

Manchester United
Newcastle United

By Rob
FOOTBALL CORRE

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TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

SECOND BEST FOR HILL
Villeneuve closes gap in world motor racing championship
Oliver Holt, PAGE 23

PLUS: US PGA CHAMPIONSHIP
Full report and details, PAGE 22

CIGAR SMOKED
The wonder horse runs out of puff at last
PAGE 32

STOPPING THE ROT
England excel at Headingley
PAGE 25

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY AUGUST 12 1996

Beckham receives a congratulatory hug from Cruyff after scoring the third of Manchester United's four Wembley goals against Newcastle United yesterday. Photographs: Julian Herbert

Shearer upstaged as Double-winners claim Charity Shield

Cantona steals the thunder

Manchester United 4
Newcastle United 0

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

IF ALAN SHEARER is the most costly individual to walk the turf of legends, Eric Cantona demonstrated at Wembley yesterday afternoon that he remains the most precious. For, while Shearer pined for the ball that seldom came, while Manchester United outpaced, outplayed and outwitted the pretenders from the North East, it was Cantona — one-fifteenth the cost of the £15 million Shearer — who inspired and led the Double-winners to such an emphatic victory in the FA Charity Shield.

One is tempted to say that here was an ordinary man, elevated by birthright and by his goals among Englishmen, competing against one who is extraordinary, who is French, and who reached yet again the extremes of wonderful touch and vision. Cantona might also have been sent off when his infamous temper erupted in the second half, but he received merely a yellow card for a physical assault on Philippe Albert that prefaced the turn from sunshine to a glowering late thunderstorm.

But how Manchester United proved their worth. It was not all about Shearer, and never could be. There is no point in possessing an idol, indeed in having £16.25 million of spare talents on the bench, if you are not a team, and from the start, as Newcastle groped for a pattern, the other United were first into their stride, first to flow. They commanded midfield through Keane and Butt. At the back, May and Pallister stretched stride for stride with Shearer and Ferdinand.

And then there was Mr Irresistible: Cantona, a pariah at the beginning of last season, this time raising the curtain on the English season by shaking hands with Keith Wiseman and introducing the new Football Association chairman to his colleagues.

Early on there was potency from Newcastle's £21 million spearhead: Ferdinand, in particular, bristled with powerful determination and, in the eighth minute, a delicate flick would have opened up the Manchester defence, but Shearer was not yet on that wavelength. He read the invitation rather too late, and red shirts closed the door. It was scarcely to open again. In the 24th minute, Giggs, with wonderful insight, passed the ball between Newcastle's cumbersome centre backs for Cantona. Srnicek came out to deflect the ball with his legs.

Cantona was denied for 30 seconds. Like the Pimpernel he reappeared unseen on the other side of the penalty box and this time, prompted by Beckham, he controlled the ball at a touch, waited, and then coolly passed the ball beyond the stranded goalkeeper.

Cantona was involved again, as was Beckham, in a second goal four minutes later. The move swept half the length of the field as the ball flowed from Keane to Giggs and then to Cantona. He, audaciously, backheeled it to Beckham, whose control on the chest was polished and whose right foot then struck the ball across the face of goal for Butt, unmarked, to score with a flying header.

Simon Barnes 27
Sharpe's move 27
Shaky Celtic 27

It was clear that, far from handing any of the serious silverware to their most ambitious opponents, Manchester United did not even have the charity to allow Newcastle to dream seriously of taking home this shield.

For Shearer, growing more forlorn by the minute, it may have dawned that he had chosen wrong when he rejected Old Trafford in favour of St James' Park. Defiantly, he was to say that Newcastle would be all right, his implication being that they had lost the rehearsal but that the real season begins at Everton next Saturday. True enough, but all the euphoria of his chosen homecoming was to be further undermined when Manchester United came late with two cruel goals.

Before that, especially when Asprilla injected some brilliant if unorthodox individual flair to Newcastle, there had been fractious interchanges. Not the least of these blackened Cantona's afternoon. In the 65th minute, Gary Neville had fouled Albert, and when they squared up, Cantona ran 15 yards to shake Albert by the back of the neck. Pandemonium. The Geordies were baying and even Cantona went red around the gills. Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, feared the worst, but the referee, Paul Durkin, abdicated responsibility, flourished the yellow card, and allowed Cantona to remain as man of the match.

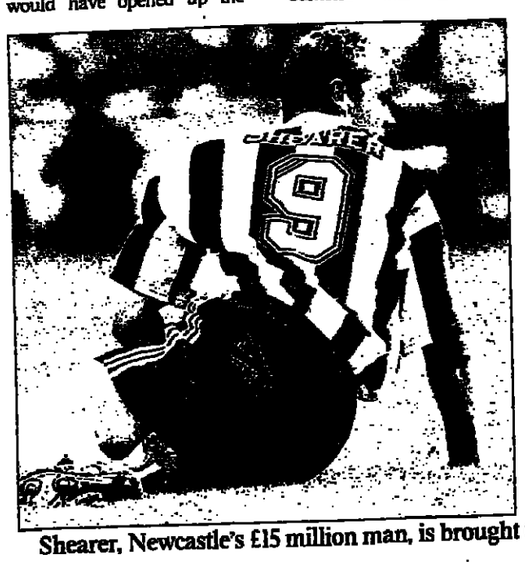
Five minutes from the end, Newcastle also abdicated the art of defence. They stood four square when Beckham was allowed to bear down on Srnicek and lift the ball artfully over the goalkeeper. Three minutes later, Poborsky, the frisky Czech Republic winger, was fouled by Albert. Giggs placed placed the free kick superbly for Keane, and the Irishman's thunderbolt under darkening skies was too fierce for Srnicek to hold.

It was that emphatic. Ferguson was able to say how well he had shopped around looking for summer bargains, and Newcastle retreated, wounded, to their monied haven in the North East.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-1-1): P Schmeichel — D Irwin (sub: G Neville, 46min), D May, G Pallister, P Neville — D Beckham, R Keane, N Butt (sub: K Poborsky, 41), R Giggs — E Cantona — P Scholes (sub: J Cruyff, 65).

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): P Srnicek — S Watson, D Peacock, P Albert, J Beresford — P Beardsley (sub: F Asprilla, 75), D Batty, R Lee, D Ginola (sub: K Gillespie, 77) — A Shearer, L Ferdinand

Referee: P Durkin.



Shearer, Newcastle's £15 million man, is brought to earth as Cantona, right, scores the opening goal

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Boycott pitches his expertise on a perfect length

ANDREW LONGMORE

TV ACTION REPLAY

There is an immutable law of sport — let us call it the Underdog Factor — that finds particular expression in baseball. It concerns the intentional walk, a ploy that is used by the pitching team to get rid of a potentially dangerous batter at a critical moment in the game. The pitcher will pitch four balls wide of the strike area, the batter will walk safely to first base and the new batter, statistically much weaker, will come to the plate and, according to all the numbers, fail.

But you and I know what happens next. Player B, the underdog, defies the odds and plants the ball into the tenth row of the bleachers to win the game. The losing coach cannot figure it out. He looks at his statistics, satisfies himself he did the right thing and retires to mastermind tomorrow's victory. Nowhere in his equations does it mention the Underdog Factor.

I tell you this partly because there was a trace or two of the Underdog Factor at Headingley over the weekend and partly to demonstrate my growing understanding of the absurdly complex sport of baseball. I have figured it all out for myself, with no help from American commentators, whose viewers have been weaned on double plays, sliders, curve balls, sacrifice flys, bunts and all the other impenetrable paraphernalia of baseball. Visiting English journalists do not register on the scale, but what about children, or those who have unaccountably missed out on their baseball education?

I tried to watch the BBC's coverage of the second Test through the eyes of my American counterpart, someone with a broad understanding of the principles of the game but a hazy grasp of detail; a child's eye view, if you like. It is a difficult role to play, even more difficult for the producers to satisfy. Where do you pitch your coverage? Make it too simple and the educated watcher is insulted and switches off: presume too much and you risk losing the next generation of cricket lovers. Clearly, some presumptions have to be made.

It would be a waste to ask Geoff Boycott to explain the different field positions, but with his little white pen he can explain why he thinks square cover should be brought up to gully when Atherton is batting against Waqar Younis. Boycott squiggles with his marker and I am wiser. I now know, for a start, where square cover and gully are, and I might pick up that one of Michael Atherton's favourite strokes is the square drive, that occasionally goes in the air through gully (roughly the area of first base). One more drip of understanding in my American journalist's basin of ignorance.

It has taken time for television to work out its role as an educational sporting medium. For too long, commentary was a matter of explanation, expertise and, in the days of Tom Graveney and Bob Willis, too often a matter of stating the obvious. "Another fine shot, there ..." was Uncle Tom's trademark quote. Technological advances in camerawork, including the "spin-cam" that allows you to see the seam rotating on the ball, draw the viewer into the game and encourage more imaginative use of its natural pauses. There is much more thought going on behind the camera, too.

Breaks in play are now filled with mini-features that might highlight a particular phase of play or slice of tactical thinking. On Saturday evening, when Nick Knight was facing Waqar, we were shown a split screen shot of Knight's twin leg-before dismissals by the same bowler at Lord's. Neither one looked out to me, but both batsman and bowler were alive to the memories. Ah, said my American viewer, so that is what he is trying to do. A big game is shaped by simple context, a broad plain narrowed to a village green.

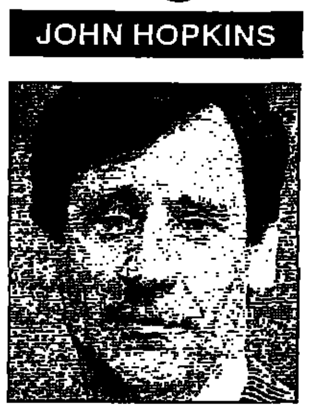
Richie Benaud has been teaching this sort of stuff for years, but more in the style of a radio commentator. Now he has illustrations. Boycott has become less didactic, less prone to the brutish "this is the way we do it in Yorkshire, so there." type of summary. His bluntness still contrasts with the insouciant elegance of David Gower, and even more so with the studied chumminess of *Test Match Special*, but he no longer beats the viewer over the head with his opinions.

With such a well-matched quartet — Lewis, Benaud, Gower and Boycott — no longer is it necessary for the sound on the television to be turned down in favour of *TMS*. Television is starting to explore its limits, to enrich and educate as well as excite. *TMS* has its moments, though, usually when Jonathan Agnew winds up Fred Trueman. "So Fred, how would you compare Bradman and Boycott?" he asked innocently one afternoon. "If Boycott were on the pavement, Bradman would be on the top of St Paul's Cathedral." Ouch. Now, how do you explain that to my American friend?

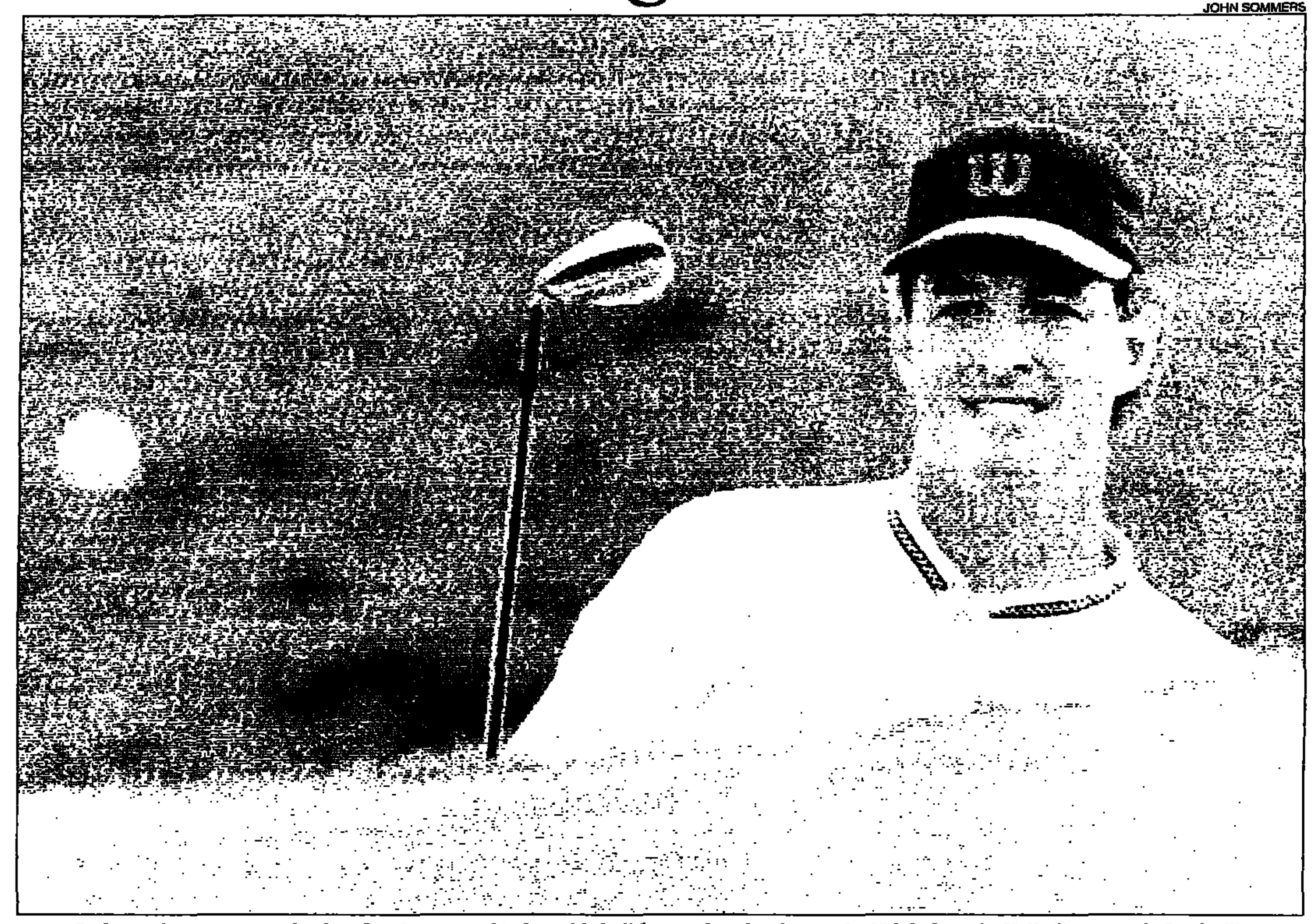
GOLF: MASTERS CHAMPION HIGHLIGHTS THE CAUSE OF HIS FOURTH-ROUND FAILURE IN KENTUCKY

Dejected Faldo swings out of control

JOHN HOPKINS



At the US PGA Championship



JOHN SOMMERS

Cochran, the tournament leader after three rounds, clears his ball from a deep bunker on the 18th hole at the Valhalla course in Louisville

A SEASON in which he won one major championship, threatened in another but played poorly in the other two can hardly be described as unsuccessful, yet Nick Faldo was less than happy with the form he had shown in major championships when he concluded his fourth round in the US PGA Championship here. Faldo's 73 was his second best of the week.

It was put into perspective by the fact that Faldo had finished his fourth round before the leaders had begun theirs. Russ Cochran, one of two left-handers, was leading the field. After 54 holes he was 11 under par, two strokes ahead of Mark Brooks and Vijay Singh and three ahead of Steve Elkington, the defending champion, Nick Price and Phil Mickelson. A 69 in the third round enabled Jesper Parnevik to move to seven under par, two strokes ahead of Per Ulrik Johansson, his compatriot, whose 66 equalled the old course record. Cochran set a new record with a 65 in his third round.

"I think that nine under par will win," Faldo, whose four-round total of 291 was three over par, said. "This is a good course that played tough. It certainly beat me. I have a lot of work to do. I really struggled with my swing and my putting. From the fourth hole on the second day I was ten strokes back and after that I was pressing. When you try and make things happen they don't. My swing has been off."

Aggression had been Faldo's watchword all week but for one who is not naturally inclined to that form of play it takes some learning. "I was trying to speed up my putting," he said. "I would take one look at the target and get on with it. The first thought is usually the correct one."

Memories of the thrilling victory in the Masters remained clear in Faldo's mind as he began what could be described as the last third of the season. The January to April stretch is the first third, concluding with the Masters. The second third comprises the US Open, Open and US PGA, the last two of which fall too close together.

This year, there were only two clear weeks between the final strokes at Lytham and the opening strokes at Valhalla. From mid-August to November is the final segment of the season, including events in Japan, the Dunhill Cup and World Matchplay in Europe.

"I started off great this year," Faldo said "but I did not play well in the US Open and although I had chances in the Open I did not take them and I did not play well here."

He flew to Denver, Colorado, last night for some trout fishing and to compete in a tournament later in the week and will play in the World Series. His only appearance in Europe for the rest of the year will be at the Lancôme Trophy in Paris next month, missing the World Matchplay tournament.

Faldo's relentless consistency in major championships set Colin Montgomerie's failure in the past two in stark contrast. Montgomerie has missed more cuts in major championships in one month than Faldo has in 12 years — Montgomerie's failure to reach the fourth rounds at Lytham, and now here, equalling Faldo's failure in the 1994 US Open and the 1986 US PGA.

After two such performances Montgomerie is about to be toppled from his position as second in the world rankings. He must be a worried man. It will be interesting to see how he reacts to this loss of form. In his relatively short professional career — he turned professional in 1987 — he has never experienced anything like it before. Will he face it with fortitude and forbearance or impatience and petulance?

If these are difficult days for Montgomerie, they are no less so for Ernie Els, of South Africa, and his thoughts can be only marginally more calm than Montgomerie's. Els, the 1994 US Open champion, has missed some golden opportunities to win major championships recently.

He opened up a three-stroke lead in the third round of the US PGA last year, only to throw it away with a fourth round of 72, one over par. Then he was even more culpable when a couple of wild tee shots near the end of his fourth round at Lytham last month cost him any chance in the Open.

On Saturday, Els had a nightmare, an eight-over-par 44 on his outward half that included a four-over-par eight and a two-over-par seven on consecutive holes. To play the next eleven in level par at a time when his mind must have been racing probably represented a triumph for Els. A 69 yesterday added a measure of respectability.

McGinley collects first victory

PAUL McGINLEY, of Ireland, produced a splendid last round of 62 to win the Hohe Brucke Austrian Open in Litschau yesterday and gain his first success on the PGA European Tour.

McGinley was eight shots behind the overnight leader, Juan Carlos Piñero, of Spain, when he began the day but he scored 11 birdies to finish on 269, 19 under par, to beat Piñero and David Lynn, of Trentham, by one shot.

McGinley, who won £41,660, had finished second four times in previous Tour events. He said: "I have been so close so often I knew my time had to come.

"I know how Piñero must feel after three-putting the 17th and my heart goes out to him. He led the field by three shots at the start today and then shot a one-under 71. He didn't lose the tournament, I won it.

"When I shot 73 in the first round, I thought I had blown my chance of winning. But I shot 20 under par for the last three rounds."

THIRD-ROUND SCORES

United States unless stated

205: R Cochran 68, 72, 65. **207:** M Brooks 68, 70, 69, V Singh (Fiji) 69, 69, 69. **208:** S Elkington (Aus) 67, 74, 67, N Price (Zim) 68, 71, 69, P Mickelson 67, 67, 74. **209:** M Brisky 71, 69, 69, J Parnevik (Swe) 73, 67, 69; G Norman (Aus) 68, 72, 69, K Perry 66, 72, 71; J Leonard 71, 66, 72. **210:** R Mediate 71, 72, 67; L Mize 71, 70, 69, L Janzen 68, 71, 71. **211:** P-U Johansson (Swe) 73, 72, 66, C Strange 73, 70, 68, T Lehman 71, 71, 69, T Tolles 69, 71, 71. **212:** T Herron 71, 73, 68, J Haas 72, 71, 69, P Burke 71, 72, 69, B Watts 70, 71, 71, F Nobilo (NZ) 69, 72, 71, D Edwards 69, 71, 72. **213:** D Ogrin 75, 70, 68, M A Jimenez (Sp) 71, 71, 71, B Faxon 72, 68, 73, J Furyk 70, 70, 73, T Watson 69, 71, 73. **214:** J Sindelar 73, 72, 69; T Nakajima (Japan) 73, 72, 69, M Calcavecchia 70, 74, 70. **215:** G Day 72, 73, 70, C Pavin 71, 74, 70, M Bradley 73, 72, 70; B Mayfair 71, 73, 71, D A Weibring 71, 73, 71, J Morse 74, 69, 72, F Zoeller 76, 67, 72, E Aubrey 69, 74, 72, F Funk 73, 69, 73, M O'Meara 71, 70, 74, S McCarron 69, 72, 74, I Woosnam (GB) 68, 72, 75. **216:** P Azinger 70, 75, 71, W Wood 70, 75, 71, P Blackmar 71, 74, 71, D Forsman 76, 69, 71, P Stankowski 70, 75, 71, J Sluman 72, 72, 72, G Morgan 72, 72, 72, N Lancaster 71, 72, 73, P Stewart 73, 70, 73, D Duval 74, 69, 73, F Couples 74, 68, 74. **217:** A Cejka (Ger) 71, 74, 72, S Stricker 73, 72, 72, L Rinker 73, 71, 73, C Rocca (It) 72, 72, 73, J Gallagher Jnr 72, 70, 71, B Boyd 71, 71, 75, N Henke 72, 70, 75. **218:** B Crenshaw 74, 71, 73, S Hoch 72, 72, 74, N Faldo (GB) 69, 75, 74, J Cook 69, 75, 74, J Adams 77, 71, 75. **219:** J Edwards 68, 76, 75, W Austin 70, 74, 75, J Maggert 73, 70, 76, W Grady (Aus) 74, 67, 78. **220:** C Parry (Aus) 72, 73, 75, S Ingraham 73, 72, 75, M Wiebe 73, 72, 75, M Dawson 76, 69, 75, H Clark (GB) 73, 72, 75. **221:** P Goydos 71, 73, 77, E Els (SA) 74, 68, 79. **223:** B Langer (Ger) 73, 72, 78. **224:** J Reeves 74, 71, 79, S Higuchi (Japan) 72, 72, 80

Fischer nets prize after stroke of luck

By Patricia Davies

GLENEAGLES was at its glorious best for the final round of the inaugural McDonald's WPGA Championship yesterday and there was some sparkling golf to match as the lead passed through a bewildering number of grips before Tina Fischer, of Germany, secured her maiden victory with a birdie at the last.

Fischer, a 25-year old from Frankfurt, did not like the seven-iron she hit to the 439-yard, par five 18th, but it came to rest 10 feet from the hole — "It's the best mishit I've ever had," she said — and, having studied the leaderboard from under her mass of dark hair, she took two putts, to finish with a round of 69 and a total of 278, ten under par.

It left her one shot ahead of Loraine Lambert, Trish Johnson, Charlotta Sorenstam and Helen Wadsworth, one of the overnight leaders, who was also nine under with one hole to play.

Wadsworth, an elegant Welshwoman with expensive tastes and an eye for a designer label, had dropped three shots in the first two holes, but three successive birdies from the short fifth restored her equilibrium. At one stage, up to a dozen players were within touching distance of the lead. Wadsworth moved ahead on her own with a brace of birdie threes at the 13th and 14th but missed the green at the 15th, to drop back to the logjam at nine under.

At the 18th, where eagles were nearly as common as pars, Wadsworth hit a poor three-iron to the front of the green, some 35 yards short of the pin. A monster putt, of more than 100 feet, is not one a player would choose to face when she needs to get down in two to force a play-off, and Wadsworth duly took three putts after leaving her first effort 12 feet short. In a Freudian slip, the putter fell out of the bag as Wadsworth's caddie left the green and the crowd had to call him back to collect it.

The sympathy went to Wadsworth, but the glory and the first prize of £22,500 went to Fischer, a landscape architect, who three-putted only once in 72 holes. Her sole *faux pas* of the week was to suggest that the 13th green on the King's Course might not pass muster by today's design standards. At the time, Fischer did not know that the hole was called Braid's Brawest because it was the favourite of James Braid, who designed the course, but she was soon told.

Next year, the defending champion will be playing for a purse of £300,000, double this year's amount. The aim of the championship is to raise the status of women's golf in Europe — and money for children's charities. More than £200,000 was raised during the week and more than 30,000 spectators turned out, despite a Saturday disrupted by torrential rain.

Out in 31, six under par, before the rain, Alison Nicholas, winner of the Irish Open two weeks ago, was terrified the round would be washed out, but it was not and she established a course record of 65, seven under par. She finished tied for sixth place on eight under par after a final round of 68.

FINAL SCORES

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

278: T Fischer (Ger) 68, 69, 72, 69. **279:** L Lambert (Aus) 70, 71, 71, 67; C Sorenstam (Swe) 70, 69, 71, 69, T Johnson 72, 70, 68, 69, H Wadsworth 69, 68, 71, 71. **280:** A Nicholas 75, 72, 65, 68; R Hetherington (Aus) 73, 70, 68, 69, M-L de Lorenzi (Fr) 70, 67, 71, 72; K Pearce (Aus) 70, 70, 68, 72. **281:** F Dassu (It) 74, 66, 73, 68; C Dibnah (Aus) 73, 67, 68, 73. **282:** S Gustafson (Swe) 73, 72, 71, 66; L Hackney 72, 70, 70, 70. **283:** J Crafter (Aus) 74, 72, 70, 67; *M McKay 73, 66, 76, 68. **284:** K Marshall 72, 73, 72, 67; J Mills (Aus) 71, 72, 72, 69; J Morley 71, 69, 74, 70, P Wright 75, 69, 70, 70. **285:** L Maritz (SA) 74, 70, 73, 68, P Meunier Lebouc (Fr) 69, 76, 72, 68, D Reid 74, 70, 72, 69, N Fink (Austria) 74, 71, 71, 69; M Hjorth (Swe) 73, 69, 73, 70. **286:** L Navarro (Sp) 72, 66, 77, 71, C Matthew 68, 74, 71, 73. **287:** L Davies 73, 74, 73, 67; J Forbes 73, 72, 72, 70, W Dicks 73, 68, 71, 75

* denotes amateur

The leading Scot and the leading amateur were combined in the person of Mhairi McKay, playing in her first professional event. She finished with a round of 68 for a total of 283, five under par.

It was a more mixed week for Laura Davies, the world No 1, who ran up a couple of sevens in the early rounds — one of them included an air shot when she dropped out of a bush into a hole — but had five birdies in a row, starting at the fourth, yesterday. She also eagled the last, for a 67 and a total of 287.

That earned Davies enough to take her to the top of the European order of merit and meant that she once more ruled the money lists on both sides of the Atlantic — for a few hours at least. She has won $626,491 (about £412,00) in official prize money but Karrie Webb, second with $597,045 (about £392,000), was leading a tournament in Massachusetts after three rounds.

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BRITISH AIRWAYS HOLIDAYS

BOWLS

Ireland pair sweep to a record third world title

By Gordon Allan

PHILLIS NOLAN and Margaret Johnston, of Ireland, won the women's world pairs championship for a record third consecutive time at Leamington Spa on Saturday, beating Jean Jones and Sylvia Syvret, of Jersey, 21-19.

"Not even the men have achieved that in their championships," Johnston said. "It was a difficult final and Jersey played really well. I struggled for line and length a lot of the time."

Nolan and Johnston play together only in the world championships and admit that they do not always gel on the green. Syvret was also on the losing side four years ago, at Ayr, when Mavis Le Marquand was her partner.

Jersey led 7-1 and 15-13 but Ireland edged ahead and stayed there. Syvret gave the shot away on the penultimate end, and missed a chance of three on the 21st, which would have forced an extra end.

Fiji beat South Africa 28-17 to take the the bronze medal.

In the triples, South Africa won the gold medal. Jannie de Beer, Barbara Redshaw and Hester Bekker defeating Gordana Baric, Margaret Sumner and Daphne Shaw, of Australia, 19-12. Successive counts of four on the thirteenth and fourteenth ends turned the game South Africa's way.

England lost the bronze medal play-off to Wales, with Ann Sutherland, Judith Wason and Betty Morgan overcoming Wendy Line, Jane Baker and Mary Price 17-14.

Johnston opened the defence of her singles title yesterday with victories over Jean Joubert, of Namibia, 25-8, and Matimba Like, of Zambia, 25-5.

Wendy Line, of England, beat Judy Howat, of New Zealand, 25-16 after trailing 1-8 but then lost 25-12 to Merle Swerdow, of Israel.

In the fours, England made a bad start, losing 30-10 to South Africa and 19-15 to Israel, but Japan won their first game of these championships, beating Argentina 22-16.

EQUESTRIANISM

Grandstand finish by bold Macken

EDDIE MACKEN provided his home crowd with a thrilling finale to the Dublin Horse Show yesterday when he pipped Robert Smith, of Great Britain, in the Kerrygold Grand Prix.

Macken, 46, snatched victory with Schalkhaar as he finished fractionally quicker than Smith, who also rode Tees Hanauer to a clear round, but both would have been overhauled by Peter Charles, another of the Irish riders, if he had not hit a fence with La Ina in clocking the fastest time of the three-horse jump-off.

Macken produced a grandstand finish going last of the three as he clipped 0.06sec off Smith's pace-setting clear round in 40.96sec. Charles, winner of the Kerrygold Challenge on Saturday, who was second to go, was almost a second faster than Macken but his one error left him in third place.

Gerry Mullins won the speed championship earlier in the day on Millstreet Ruby.

CYCLING

Wild-card entry helps fuel British ambitions

By Peter Bryan

GREAT Britain has been given a late wild-card entry into the 145-mile Leeds Classic next Sunday, the seventh round of the season's World Cup competition, in which Bjarne Riis, of Denmark, the winner of the Tour de France, and his compatriot, Rolf Sorensen, the Atlanta Olympics silver medal-winner, are among the 120 entries.

Mick Morrison, director of Team Ambrosia, confirmed yesterday that his squad will be among the 15 trade teams competing after a last-minute invitation at the weekend.

"We have had to pay a £3,500 registration fee to the international cycling union to confirm the entry but I am delighted for the team," Morrison said. "They were only formed this year but they have done so well."

Morrison has made a surprise addition to the team, calling up Matt Stephens, whose eighth place in last year's World Amateur Championship road race qualified Britain for the Atlanta Games but, ironically, failed to gain him selection for the Olympics.

The Team Ambrosia line-up for the world cup race is: Stephens, Rob Hayles, Dave Williams, Mark McKay, Tim Hall and Gary Thomas, with Rod Ellingworth as reserve.

Chris Boardman, preparing for the World Track championships in Manchester at the end of the month, leads his French Gan team in the Leeds race and Sean Yates, who plans to retire at the end of the year, will be riding in support of Max Sciandri, the Anglo-Italian, who won last year's race.

Andy Wilkinson, holder of the Land's End to John o'Groats record and the British 100-miles time-trial champion, broke the 13-year-old 100-mile record yesterday by four minutes when he set a new best of 3hrs 27min 39sec to win the Westerley RC event at a near average speed of 30mph.

Results, page 28

MOTOR RACING: ENGLISHMAN'S POOR START GIVES VILLENEUVE THE CHANCE OF A THRILLING FINISH TO THE SEASON

Hill struggles to unpick championship gridlock

OLIVER HOLT

At the Hungarian Grand Prix

DAMON HILL turned the Hungarian Grand Prix into a 77-lap act of atonement here yesterday but it would not forgive him his original sin. In vain, he pushed himself to the limits to try to wipe out the advantage he had handed to Jacques Villeneuve at the start, and in the heat and the dust of the Hungaroring the young Canadian dragged the destiny of the world drivers' championship back into the melting pot.

Villeneuve's victory and Hill's fighting second place clinched the constructors' championship for Williams in the most emphatic way but it reduced the Englishman's lead over his team-mate in the race for the drivers' title to 17 points, with four races remaining. The rest are out of the running: there are just the two of them now.

Hill remains the strong favourite, of course, not least because he hurried away from the circuit, heading for a promotional trip to Bulgaria, rightly refusing to be downcast by a gritty, unrelenting performance that lacked for nothing save his speed off the starting grid. "I hate losing in any circumstances," he said, "but if I could ever be satisfied with second place, it is probably today."

Yesterday's result, though, adds a tantalising air of unpredictability to the remaining quarter of a season that had once seemed likely to provide only a prolonged coronation party for Hill. He can no longer wrap the championship up at Spa, Belgium, in a fortnight and it now seems likely the struggle will last at least to the penultimate race in Estoril, Portugal.

"If I had to choose," Patrick Head, the technical director at Williams, said, "I would rather be in the position of the man who has the 17-point lead. But if Jacques wins at Spa and say Damon has a mechanical problem, it would be down to seven points and that is nothing. Jacques has raised his game in the last few races and he is now in the same area of performance as Damon."

The race here was won and lost in the first few seconds as Hill made his third consecutive poor start and was engulfed by a stream of snarling rivals. The Ferrari of Michael Schumacher pulled safely away from pole position but Hill, starting alongside him on the front row, was overtaken by Villeneuve and the Benetton-Renault of Jean Alesi before the dip down and to the right at the end of the pit straight.

As Schumacher and Villeneuve tore off into the distance, Hill was stuck behind the slower car of Alesi. By the time Villeneuve made his first pit stop after 21 laps, overtaking Schumacher in the process, he had roared to a 20sec lead over his team-mate. Hill made his own stop four laps later and emerged in fourth place, behind Alesi once more.

He refused to give up, though, and confounded the critics who accuse him of going to pieces when he is not in the lead, by forcing Alesi into a mistake on the 31st lap and overtaking him on a track where it is notoriously difficult to pass. From then on he was clearly the fastest driver on the circuit, cutting huge chunks out of the times of the leading drivers.

Villeneuve, though, never gave him any real hope of victory. He did what he had to do, driving within himself until Hill reached him in the last ten laps of the race. By then Schumacher had been forced to retire with a throttle problem while running third and the two Williams drivers fought for victory right to the chequered flag.

When Villeneuve made his third and final stop, a wheel-nut cross-threaded and it seemed for a few seconds that he might be delayed long enough for Hill to hurtle past. The problem was solved just in time, however, and Villeneuve darted out in front. From then onwards, Hill's only hope was a mistake from the Canadian. Villeneuve never made it.

Much of the post-race inquest centred on the start and the respective merits of hand-held clutches, as used by Villeneuve, and foot-operated ones of the type used by Hill. "The way the clutch works does not suit me," Hill said. "I am working very hard to get Williams to provide me with one I can use.

"I was disgusted with my start. I have lost count of the number of times the start has cost me places on the first lap but it has got to be fixed. I lost the race in the first ten laps. It was just over. I was doing all I could but by the time I eventually got past Jean, Jacques and Michael were long gone.

"When I came out after the first pit stop, I just could not believe it when Jean went past again as I was on the exit road. My heart sank. I thought, 'Crikey, not another 25 laps behind Alesi,' but fortunately he went wide and I slipped past him. The last few races are going to be thrilling for the viewers now but tough for Jacques and I."

It was Villeneuve's third win of the season and perhaps his most impressive, given that he was not expected to be competitive on a circuit he had never driven on before and that is harder than most to learn. He was delighted by his victory but his eyes are on the bigger prize.

"We had a comfortable lead in the constructors' championship anyway," he said. "But now it is decided, Damon and I can really fight it out. I was not really pushing for much of the race, but when Damon got close I started to push."

If the drivers' championship is still in the balance, though, Williams ended the hopes of their rivals in the unequal struggle for the constructors' title, equalling Ferrari's record of eight championships. They now lead Benetton by 90 points.

"It's a brilliant team effort and I'm thrilled to bits about it," Frank Williams, the team owner, said.

CLAIRE MACKINTOSH

Villeneuve punches the air in celebration as he passes members of the Williams team in the pits after completing his victory in the Hungarian Grand Prix yesterday

DETAILS FROM BUDAPEST

RESULT (77laps, 305.536km): 1, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams) 1hr 46min 21.134sec (av speed 172.372kph); 2, D Hill (GB, Williams) at 0.7sec; 3, J Alesi (Fr, Benetton) 1min 24.212sec; 4, M Hakkinen (Fin, McLaren) 1lap; 5, O Panis (Fr, Ligier); 6, R Barrichello (Br, Jordan) 2; 7, U Katayama (Japan, Tyrrell) 3; 8, R Rosset (Br, Footwork) 3; 9, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 7; 10, G Lavaggi (It, Minardi) 8. Did not finish: 11, G Berger (Austria, Benetton) 64 laps completed; 12, H-H Frentzen (Ger, Sauber) 50; 13, J Herbert (GB, Sauber) 35; 14, E Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 31; 15, P Lamy (Por, Minardi) 24; 16, D Coulthard (GB, McLaren) 23; 17, J Verstappen (Holl, Footwork) 10; 18, M Brundle (GB, Jordan) 5; 19, P Diniz (Br, Ligier) 1. Did not start (failed to finish first lap): 20, M Salo (Fin, Tyrrell). Fastest lap: Hill 1:20.093 (178.352 kph).

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS: Drivers: 1, Hill 79pts; 2, Villeneuve 62; 3, Alesi 35; 4, Schumacher 29; 5, Hakkinen 19; 6, Coulthard 18; 7, Berger 16; 8, Panis 13; 9, Barrichello 12; 10, Irvine 9; 11, Frentzen 6; 12, Salo 5; 13 Herbert 4; 14, Brundle 3; equal 15, Verstappen and Diniz 1. Constructors: 1, Williams 141; 2, Benetton 51; 3, Ferrari 38; 4, McLaren 37; 5, Jordan 15; 6, Ligier 14; 7, Sauber 10; 8, Tyrrell 5; 9, Footwork 1.

REMAINING GRANDS PRIX: Aug 25: Belgian, Spa-Francorchamps; Sept 8: Italian, Monza; Sept 22: Portuguese, Estoril; Oct 13: Japanese, Suzuka.

MOTORSPORT

Biela puts himself on course for title

BY MARK FOGARTY

FRANK BIELA, the World Cup champion, finally conceded yesterday that the *Auto Trader* British Touring Car Championship is his for the taking after scoring his seventh victory of the series, at Oulton Park.

Biela, of Germany, won the twentieth round of the 26-race series from pole position in his four-wheel drive Audi A4 after finishing a close second in the nineteenth round, extending his overall lead in the championship to an effectively unassailable 80 points.

He needs just one more win to clinch the title. "For the first time I agree that the championship is safe," Biela said. "The next two races at Thruxton on August 26 are still important, but I'd like to win the championship there so that I can really try hard in the final two meetings of the series."

Biela's nearest rival for the title, Rickard Rydell, of Sweden, fell out of all but mathematical contention by following a distant fifth in the first race yesterday with an untimely retirement from the second, caused by his Volvo 850 suffering a front suspension breakage after colliding with the Vauxhall Vectra of John Cleland.

Rydell's failure to add significantly to his points tally places him in danger of being overtaken for second place in the championship by Alain Menu, who narrowly beat Biela in the first race in his Renault Laguna and was third in the second.

Trailing Rydell by just two points, Menu, of Switzerland, has revived his chances of finishing runner-up for the third year in a row.

Biela, contesting the championship for the first time, has never been headed since winning the opening two races at Donington Park four months ago. He has continued to build on his early advantage despite the Audi, the only four-wheel drive in the field, receiving an additional 30 kilogramme weight handicap after winning five of the first eight races.

RUGBY LEAGUE: EMPHATIC VICTORY AGAINST LOWLY PARIS PUTS TITLE WITHIN TOUCHING DISTANCE

St Helens close in on their pot of gold

Paris Saint-Germain 12
St Helens 32

FROM CHRISTROPHER IRVINE

A RAINBOW stretched across the Charlety Stadium on a brooding, wet Parisian night. Beneath it, St Helens edged closer to their pot of gold by a display of model thoroughness, discipline and professionalism. They now have the Stones Super League title firmly in their sights and nothing, not even cussed opposition and cursed conditions, were going to deflect them on Saturday.

Another noteworthy sporting feat of 1966 was St Helens's last championship and Challenge Cup double. Few would now wager against it being realised again. Consistency, a quality not always apparent in St Helens sides of the previous 30 years, is the main reason they are edging Wigan.

His players gave a good account of themselves, but John Kear, the Paris coach, accurately summed up the difference by a description of St Helens's performance as "un-St Helens". "The pitch was saturated, but they adapted immediately, controlled the ball, and defended superbly," Kear said. "We asked the questions, but they answered the lot. There aren't the silly errors any more, nor extravagance for extravagance sake. They are totally one-eyed in terms of the championship, and I think they're there."

The St Helens boat is not quite in yet. Wigan could have a say, provided they overcome London Broncos on Saturday and St Helens self-destruct against Sheffield Eagles 24 hours later. However, St Helens have survived their most sterling tests and, correctly, are adopting a heads-down policy. By maintaining their unbeaten home record in their final two games, they will become champions.

Should the Broncos go one better than their draw at Wigan in June, and the crowning ceremony is at Knowsley Road on Sunday, Shaun McRae, the St Helens coach, would happily settle for an earlier conclusion. No side has had it harder than St Helens, whose year-round season, in the centenary championship, Regal Trophy final, Challenge Cup and the first summer Super League, is taking its toll in fatigue and injuries.

Strength in depth was Wigan's secret and St Helens, seemingly, have realised its importance. Hayes, Hunte, Sullivan and Martyn, who have all had severely interrupted seasons, were woven seamlessly into the pattern in Paris. Haigh filled in for Newlove at centre with youthful authority, while the campaign stalwarts, Goulding, Cunningham, Hammond and Perelini, made their familiar, stout-hearted contributions.

Importantly, there is the personnel to see St Helens home, plus the will. McRae has had his critics about the defence being as vulnerable as it was before he arrived last January, but the Australian has added a mental toughness. Luck, inevitably, has played its part, but the team have got out of too many tight spots for them all to be down to good fortune.

The determination is embodied in Keiron Cunningham, even though the teenage hooker has requested a transfer in a row about his contract. "Obviously, we want to keep him, but the good thing about Keiron is he came to me and said 'regardless of what you might hear and read you've got 100 per cent commitment from me'," McRae said.

Cunningham is a certainty for the Great Britain squad, announced tomorrow, as indeed, are probably half the St Helens side for the autumn visit to Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand, although quite what physical state they will be in by the end of the Premiership competition in another month is a different matter.

In a game of spot-the-Parisian among a 4,000 crowd, the revelry was somewhat surreal. The good citizens of Paris had done their usual August flit south and left the Charlety Stadium to an army of travelling supporters, who turned an occasion on foreign soil into something of a home fixture.

Sullivan was alert for his two tries and the others by Hunte, Perelini, Cunningham and Prescott were assured from close range. Bird and Bomati exploited rare gaps in either half for Paris, but in the teeming rain, St Helens supporters were singing long into the night, to the bemusement of a few token Frenchmen.

SCORERS: Paris Saint-Germain: Tries: Bird, Bomati. Goals: Smith (2). St Helens: Tries: Cunningham, Hunte, Perelini, Prescott, Sullivan (2). Goals: Goulding (4).
PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN: L Lucchese, P Bomati, P Chamorin, E Vergniol, G Wilson, D Bird, P Entat, V Bloomfield, V Wulf, J Sands, J Pech, J Bryant, D Smith. Subs: F Banquet, D Cabestany, J Griffiths, J Parry.
ST HELENS: S Prescott, J Hayes, A Hunte, A Haigh, A Sullivan; T Martyn, R Goulding; A Perelini, K Cunningham, A Fogerty, D McVey, C Morley, K Hammond. Subs: I Pickavance, D Busby, D Arnold.
Referee: R Connolly (Wigan).

ANDREW VARLEY

Hunte outpaces the Paris Saint-Germain defence to score the first try for St Helens

Salford celebrate promotion by signing Platt

Salford Reds 21
Keighley Cougars 5

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

SALFORD enjoyed the upset of the season when they ended Wigan's eight-year winning run in the Challenge Cup. Yesterday, the club savoured a more tangible reward — the first division championship, and promotion next season to the Super League.

Keighley gave the home side, now unbeaten in 12 outings, one of their more competitive matches. It has been a procession since June, and following their victory in the meaningless Centenary championship last season, to place their hands on the trophy a second time in eight months and get their place among the elite was justice.

In preparation, Salford are already strengthening the side, with the acquisition from Auckland Warriors of Andy Platt. The former Great Britain prop is the first of several expected additions, although Andy Gregory, the Salford coach, already possesses a strong mix of young and experienced talents. "To win the first division in successive seasons is a tremendous achievement, but now we've got to ensure we make an impression on the Super League," Gregory said.

The top flight will provide far more onerous tests, but there is no denying Salford's spirit. For Keighley and Hull, who also want to be "fast-tracked" in like South Wales, the battle is on for second place, in the hope that it might qualify them for a second promotion spot.

Salford are there by dint of hard work on the field. They are unbeaten in 16 league matches at home since Keighley won at the Willows 11 months ago. The Cougars might have threatened a repeat, had they not found new ways of fluffing tries. Not that Salford were going to have their big day ruined.

Rogers scored the first of four tries after excellent work by Hampson, the man of the match. Lee dropped a goal and Sini's first try, as he broke three tackles and stretched his legs over 60 metres, put Salford in charge. They were grateful for Dixon missing his conversion of Milner's try from in front of the posts, before the result was put beyond doubt by Forber charging clear for a try and Sini adding his second.

SCORERS: Salford: Tries: Sini (2), Rogers, Forber. Goals: Blakeley, Hampson. Dropped goal: Lee. Keighley: Try: Milner.
SALFORD REDS: S Hampson; F Sini, S Naylor, N McAvoy, D Rogers; S Blakeley, M Lee; I Blease, P Edwards, C Eccles, P Forber, L Savelio, S Panapa. Subs: S Martin, P Mansson, A Burgess, C Randall.
KEIGHLEY COUGARS: K Dixon; W Race, M Milner, A King, J Critchley; D Powell, C Robinson; S Parsons, P Carrillon, S Hall, D Fleary, S Whakarau, M Wood. Subs: S Wray, D Larder, J Berry, G Cochrane.
Referee: S Cummings (Widnes).

ROWING

Brownless adds another silver to world medal haul

BY MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

ALISON BROWNLESS, 33, underlined her position as Britain's greatest ever oarswoman with another world medal at Strathclyde yesterday. She and Jane Hall, 22, the Redgrave and Pinsent of women's lightweight pairs, produced a two-minute last 500 metres to overtake Romania and take silver behind the United States, the world champions. Brownless, who now holds one gold and five silver world medals, said: "I thought about settling for bronze, but I just couldn't do it."

Hall, at stroke, who already has one gold and three silver world medals, wound up the rate to 42 at the finish but it was not enough to catch the American pair. Hall, distraught when the duo failed to qualify for the Olympics in a double scull, said: "At least we showed the Romanians we can play our game and win." She was referring to Camilia Macoviciuc, the Romania bow, who won an Olympic gold medal in a double in Atlanta.

The Union Jacks were soon waving again as the women's lightweight four — Malindi Myers, Trish Corless, Robyn Morris and Jo Nitsch — almost exceeded the pair's example. Fourth at 1,000 metres, Nitsch, a veteran of the 1995 silver medal-winning four, steadily pushed the rate up from 37 to 41. Her crew responded, passing first Germany, then the American world champions, and were less than a second behind China at the line.

But the successes of the women were not mirrored by the senior men yesterday. Near misses came for the men's lightweight eight and the men's coxed four. The four, a crew of club oarsmen from Nottingham County, were very unlucky. Against the form as the slowest qualifiers in the final, Steve Trapmore, the stroke, drove his crew along in third place until the last stroke when Russia snatched the bronze by 0.2sec.

It is 14 years since the Britain juniors had a blank medal sheet at a world championships and, by 5pm on Saturday, the audience was beginning to contemplate another unaccustomed whitewash. It took a Scotsman from Dumfries, Michael Martin, the rowing master at Abingdon School, to avoid the unthinkable. Martin is coach to the Britain junior eight, a composite crew with Martin's own Abingdon protegées, Ed Russell and Charles Park, in the stroke and coxwains seats. But Romania and Germany proved unbeatable.

"Our win was to get a third place," Martin said. "We decided to change our race plan and put everything into the first 1,000 metres." They were still fourth at that point, just behind the United States, but an inspired third quarter got them through to third and they held on for bronze. The eights' medal softened the despair felt by the junior men's coxless four, Britain's lead boat, that was involved in a blanket finish where two seconds covered the top five crews. The disappointed British finished fifth.

Results 28

The women's junior four moved through from sixth to fourth in the second half of their final, but never threatened a medal.

Fisa, the international governing body, outlined proposals at a congress last Friday to cut the number of rowing events in the world championship programme. If accepted at its February meeting, six rowing events would disappear and one extra sculling event would be introduced, changing the balance of the programme to 12 sculling events and seven rowing events.

With most clubs in Britain based on rowing, the British view, backed by Germany, is that such changes should be more gradual. A meeting will be held with athletes and coaches in October to decide the British stance.

CRICKET: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AGAIN MAKE MOCKERY OF CHAMPIONSHIP FORM WITH EMPHATIC VICTORY OVER MIDDLESEX

Sunday best keeps title hopes thriving

BY PAT GIBSON

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss): Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Middlesex by nine wickets

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE seem to be doing their level best to emulate the bizarre achievements of Yorkshire in 1983 and Kent last year by winning the Sunday League while finishing bottom of the county championship.

Twenty-four hours after they had slumped to their fourth successive championship defeat, Nottinghamshire looked a different side altogether as they turned the tables on Middlesex to register their fourth Sunday win on the trot to move into third place in the Axa Equity & Law League table.

They still have Durham below them in the championship, of course, and they still have Northamptonshire and Surrey above them in the League, but it does look as though they are pouring all their energies into salvaging the £40,000 Sunday prize money from an otherwise dismal season.

Nottinghamshire's Jekyll and Hyde performances are epitomised by the form of their captain, Paul Johnson. When he was out for a duck on Saturday, it was the sixth time in eight championship innings that he had failed to get into double figures and he trudged off the field like a man carrying the cares of the world on his shoulders.

When he went in yesterday, his side was cruising to victory in a match reduced to 32 overs by rain and he was back to his perky old self as he joined Robinson in an unbroken second wicket stand of 56 in ten overs which saw them home with 6.5 overs to spare. He is now averaging 54 in the Sunday League.

Middlesex, too, had undergone a strange metamorphosis. They had batted and bowled with great discipline to win their first match under Mark Ramprakash's captaincy by an innings but, for some reason, Saturday night and Sunday morning in Nottingham had produced a listless side which never got out of first gear after their innings had been interrupted by a heavy shower after only ten balls.

Johnson had put them in with an eye on the weather but the threatening clouds offered no excuse for the way they played. Weekes was bowled in Evans's third over and then Pooley committed the cardinal sin of running out his captain. Pooley took Ramprakash by surprise by calling for a second run to long leg and he was left stranded when Noon, the wicketkeeper, took Evans's return and threw down the stumps at the bowler's end.

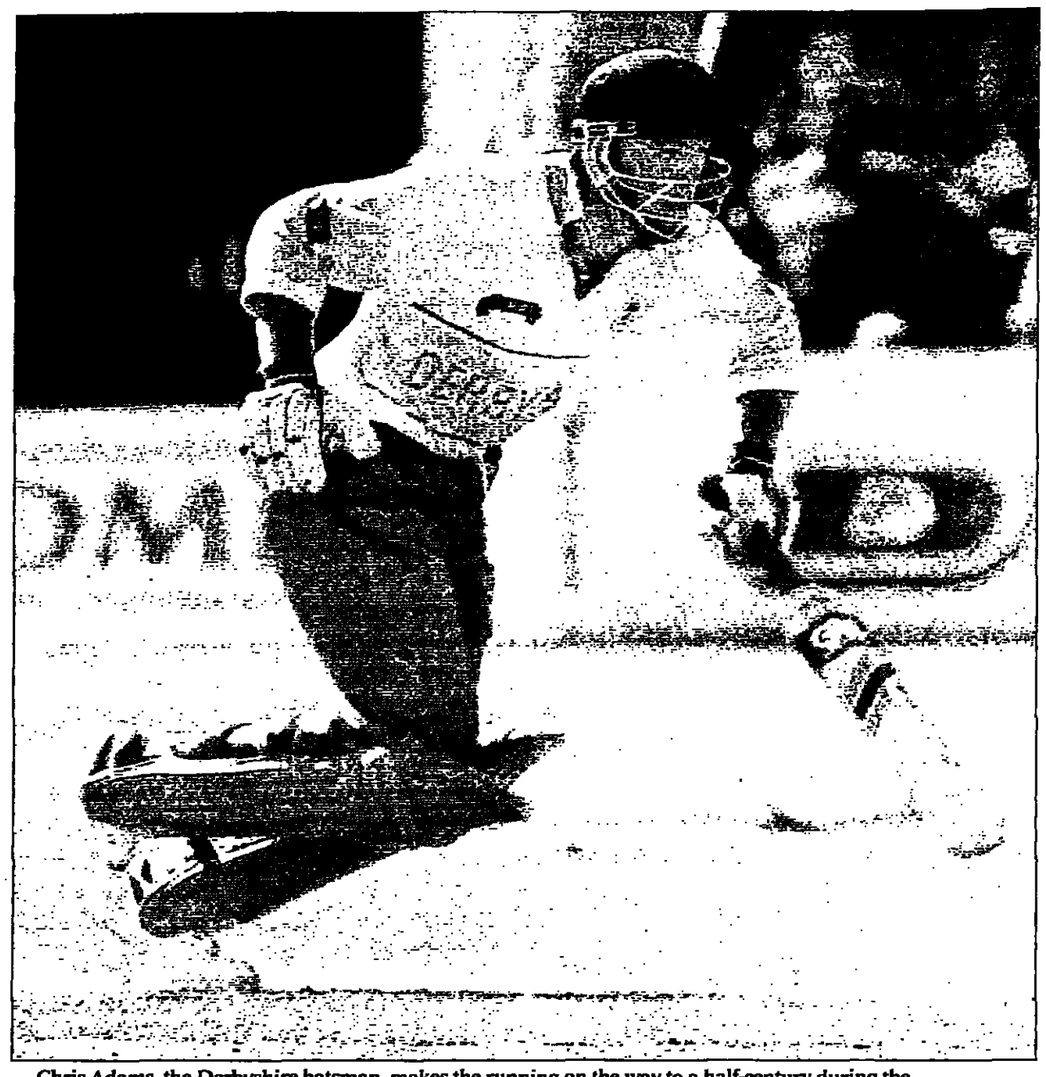
Pooley did not last much longer himself and it was left to the precocious Shah, 17, to give the Middlesex innings some substance by sharing successive stands of 39 and 38 with Carr and Brown. Shah, who is already a member of the England under-19 side, had made a big impression by scoring 53 on his championship debut and now he played with an urgency that was lacking in his seniors.

He had made 38 off 57 balls, hitting only two fours but running brilliantly between the wickets, when he became the second run-out victim and this time he had only himself to blame. He played Bowen straight to mid-on and, perhaps forgetting in his youthful enthusiasm that Tolley is left-handed, was beaten by a direct hit.

The Nottinghamshire attack, sadly lacking penetration in the first-class game, bowled tidily enough for this sort of cricket and Cairns, cutting down his pace to concentrate on line and length, cleaned up the tail to finish with 4 for 22.

The rest was a formality. Robinson is an old hand at this kind of thing as his record of more than 6,000 runs on Sundays proves, and for the second week in succession Dowman was a thoroughly competetent ally.

They had put on 83 in 16 overs when Dowman pulled Fraser to square leg. By then, Middlesex were dispirited and Robinson and Johnson knocked off the runs.



Chris Adams, the Derbyshire batsman, makes the running on the way to a half-century during the AXA Equity & Law League match against Sussex at Hove yesterday. Sussex won on faster run rate

Aggressive Cowdrey turns tide in Kent's favour

Fleming: brisk start

NORTHAMPTON (Kent won toss): Kent (4pts) beat Northamptonshire by four wickets

BY SIMON WILDE

A BRILLIANT half-century from 34 balls by Graham Cowdrey carried Kent, the defending AXA Equity & Law League champions, to an exciting victory with eight balls to spare over Northamptonshire, who before the match topped this season's league table, at Northampton yesterday. The result threw open the league race but Kent, despite this win, have only a small chance of retaining their title.

When Cowdrey, who has lost his place in Kent's championship side, came to the wicket they were 141 for four, needing a further 94 from 11 overs. It was a tall order in poor light against a disciplined Northamptonshire attack, with Capel in the midst of an excellent spell that brought him the wickets of Hooper, Fleming, Ward and Llong. But Cowdrey struck the ball with power and intelligence and with the promising House, playing in his third match in this competition, added 56 in six overs.

Taylor took the brunt of the punishment, three of his overs yielding 38 runs and even Emburey could not strangle the life out of the Kent innings as he had in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final tie between the teams in May.

Cowdrey struck one six and six fours in his unbeaten 52, which occupied 36 balls. Equally valuable to Kent's cause was Fleming's 72 from 74 balls which gave his side the sort of brisk start they needed. He should have been caught when 29 but Ambrose put down the chance on the mid-wicket boundary.

With Walker, he saw 58 put on for the first wicket and with Hooper 48 in seven for the second. But when Capel dismissed Hooper and Fleming in the space of three overs Northamptonshire came right back into the game.

Fleming earlier took three wickets to take his league tally for the season to 26. The first, that of Loye, broke a promising opening partnership with his first ball but his other wickets were of less importance and his bowling was more expensive than Kent would have liked.

Kent appeared to have gained an important advantage by winning the toss and fielding first but the anticipated rain never came. The threat of it, though, kept the home side on their toes, none more so than Penberthy and Walton, who shared a rousing stand of 88 between the 26th and 37th overs at a tempo that increased as the skies darkened.

Penberthy hit Fleming for one six and Hooper for two (one deftly caught by a spectator) during a fine 70 from 55 balls that was his highest score in the league, but he should never have got beyond 30, Willis making poor use of his gauntlets by missing him off a simple skyer. He finally fell to a brilliant running catch on the boundary by Llong, whose sharp work also led to the running out of Capel.

Walton's innings of 40 occupied 41 balls and Northamptonshire's other main contributor in a total of 235 for seven was Montgomerie, whose 66 off 76 balls was his third half-century in four Sunday league innings.

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Warwickshire win to stay in title hunt

BY JACK BAILEY

EDGBASTON (Durham won toss): Warwickshire (4pts) beat Durham by 88 runs

SAY what you like about the AXA Equity & Law Sunday League, they love it in Birmingham. Jazzed up by a PA announcer, who makes the average circus ringmaster appear *sotto voce*, the crowd cheered all Warwickshire's good deeds and some of the opposition's. Yesterday, they had every incentive as Warwickshire steam-rollered over Durham, despite reaching only a modest 187 in their own innings.

That Warwickshire are still in the race for the title — handily placed as the teams round Tattenham Corner — owed much to two bowlers. One of them, Shaun Pollock, distinguished himself with the bat, playing the innings of the day. The other, Gladstone Small, wrecked Durham's chances with three wickets in mid-innings which, with the aid of Neil Smith, saw them lose four wickets for 13 runs after looking on course at 45 for two. Small finished with four for 14 in eight overs.

By the time he had finished, Durham were 88 for seven and it was all over bar the shouting. Durham do not win too many matches and their total of 99 was some way below their previous lowest in this competition — 105 against Glamorgan. This was especially disappointing, coming as it did after a good performance in the field having sent Warwickshire in to bat.

In Roseberry's absence, Simon Brown was leading Durham for the first time. He deployed his resources well. His field placing succeeded in containing all the Warwickshire batsmen except Pollock and, all too briefly, for a sizeable Edgbaston crowd, Dominic Ostler, who was straining at the leash when Boylin pierced his defence after first tying him down.

Boylin and Saggers conceded only three runs an over and they took four wickets between them. Nobody else came near them for accuracy.

After Brown had taken the wicket of Smith, trying one lofted drive too many, it was Saggers who rocked Warwickshire early on. He brought one back to Moles and bowled him comprehensively and later uprooted Wasim Khan's middle stump with a beauty.

With four good wickets down for 87 and only 13 overs left, Warwickshire were in dire need of salvation. It came in the shape of Pollock, who illustrated the benefit of clean, straight hitting — as opposed, for instance, to the ugly reverse sweep which saw the demise of Dougie Brown, against Boylin, after he had promised much more.

Pollock's 56 came from only 55 balls. He was denied more than a solitary four, but scored from most balls he received and succeeded in clipping Simon Brown for six over mid-wicket and over long-off immediately after reaching his half-century.

Doubtless this gave him more pleasure than the two wickets with which he helped to finish off the hapless Durham batting. Two slick run-outs added to Durham's woes, the more important of these being a brilliant throw from Penney which ran out Campbell with only one stump at which to aim.

Surrey stay on track for title hat-trick

BY IVO TENNANT

ALTHOUGH their AXA Equity & Law League match against Lancashire at Old Trafford yesterday was affected by the weather, Surrey nevertheless managed to go to the top of the table. There was a further reason for this, other than Lancashire being unable to come close to reaching their revised target. Northamptonshire, who held a two-point lead over them at the start of play, were beaten by Kent, the champions.

Not that Surrey's batting was particularly memorable. Shahid, that most useful of cricketers, made a half-century off 82 balls, but there were few other contributions of note. Chapple took three wickets for 29 at a lively medium pace, ensuring that his side's target was within their compass. Then it ruined. The requirement became 182 in 36 overs, which proved to be quite beyond Lancashire.

Benjamin took two early wickets and Martin Bicknell collected three in all. Other than an innings of 33 by Speak, the batting fell away. Lancashire, it was true, were without Atherton and Crawley, who were involved across the Pennines, but this collapse said something about why they are not in contention for this particular competition this year. For Surrey, who needed an Australian to galvanise them — nobody else but Dave Gilbert could — this is proving to be quite a season. Three trophies can yet be theirs.

There was an equally straightforward victory for Somerset, who beat Essex by eight wickets at Taunton in a match reduced to 32 overs a side. Lathwell made a half-century that included six fours, but the important innings was played by Bowler, the acting captain, who was unbeaten with 68 when victory was achieved with seven balls to spare. For Essex, for whom Irani batted in his customary ebullient vein, there will be solace to be found in Colchester week, which is imminent.

This was their ninth defeat in 13 Sunday League matches. They did not have the best of fortune yesterday, losing Hibbert, their new opening batsmen, with a hand injury after he had scored eight. But they cannot always rely on Gooch, who says he will decide in the next three weeks whether to continue playing next year, to carry their batting.

Glamorgan collapsed to their third successive defeat, beaten by Leicestershire at Swansea in a match reduced to 35 overs a side. A target of 219 was always likely to be difficult to obtain on a turning pitch, and so it proved. Brimson and Macmillan, the two spinners, exploited it well. Leicestershire's victory also owed much to a partnership of 91 in 11 overs between Smith and Maddy for the fifth wicket.

At Hove, Sussex defeated Derbyshire on a higher run rate in another match affected by rain. Greenfield played the match-winning innings here, although his half-century could not compare with Adams for pugnacious stroke-play. He finished with an unbeaten 88. At Southampton, Hampshire's match with Gloucestershire was abandoned without a ball being bowled.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

AXA Equity & Law League

Glamorgan v Leicestershire

SWANSEA (Leicestershire won toss): Leicestershire (4pts) beat Glamorgan by 60 runs

LEICESTERSHIRE

*P V Simmons c Hemp b Cosker	27
V J Wells b Watkin	11
B F Smith b Hemp	80
G I Macmillan c Gibson b Dale	4
A Habib st Shaw b Cosker	1
D L Maddy c Maynard b Gibson	51
†P A Nixon c Hemp b Gibson	1
G J Parsons not out	23
D Williamson not out	0
Extras (lb 5, w 12, nb 3)	20
Total (7 wkts, 35 overs)	218

J Ormond and M T Brimson did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-68, 3-92, 4-99, 5-190, 6-193, 7-196

BOWLING: Watkin 8-1-43-1; Gibson 7-0-44-2; Dale 6-0-31-1; Cosker 8-0-38-2; Colley 4-0-43-0; Hemp 2-0-14-1

GLAMORGAN

A W Evans b Ormond	7
H Morris c Habib b Macmillan	28
*M P Maynard c Simmons b Macmillan	31
P A Cottey lbw b Brimson	1
D L Hemp c Habib b Brimson	5
A Dale lbw b Wells	26
O D Gibson st Nixon b Brimson	13
S P James not out	12
†A D Shaw c Simmons b Parsons	5
D A Cosker b Wells	4
S L Watkin lbw b Wells	0
Extras (lb 5, w 8, nb 13)	26
Total (33.5 overs)	158

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-79, 3-84, 4-86, 5-96, 6-125, 7-143, 8-153, 9-158

BOWLING: Parsons 7-0-34-1; Ormond 6-0-32-1; Macmillan 8-0-37-2; Brimson 8-0-23-3; Simmons 2-0-8-0; Wells 2.5-0-19-3

Umpires: A A Jones and R A White

Lancashire v Surrey

OLD TRAFFORD (Surrey won toss): Surrey (4pts) beat Lancashire by a higher run rate

SURREY

M A Butcher b Chapple	1
A D Brown b Chapple	35
D J Bicknell run out	19
N Shahid c Fairbrother b Yates	58
*A J Hollioake b Green	26
B P Julian c Fairbrother b Elworthy	22
B C Hollioake not out	22
†G J Kersey c Hegg b Chapple	4
M P Bicknell not out	1
Extras (lb 8, w 4, nb 2)	14
Total (7 wkts, 40 overs)	202

R M Pearson and J E Benjamin did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-45, 3-69, 4-125, 5-174, 6-180, 7-188

BOWLING: Elworthy 8-0-45-1; Chapple 8-0-29-3; Green 8-0-30-1; Yates 8-0-39-1; Watkinson 8-0-51-0

LANCASHIRE

J E R Gallian run out	3
*M Watkinson lbw b Benjamin	21
N H Fairbrother lbw b Benjamin	6
G D Lloyd c Shahid b M P Bicknell	24
N J Speak b B C Hollioake	33
P C McKeown c A J Hollioake b M P Bicknell	1
†W K Hegg b Julian	2
G Chapple c D J Bicknell b M P Bicknell	7
G Yates c Julian b A J Hollioake	8
S Elworthy c Julian b A J Hollioake	15
R J Green not out	0
Extras (lb 6, w 2)	8
Total (31.3 overs)	128

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-26, 3-41, 4-69, 5-71, 6-85, 7-94, 8-109, 9-119

BOWLING: Benjamin 8-1-22-2; M P Bicknell 8-1-25-3; Pearson 5-0-23-0; Julian 5-0-22-1; B C Hollioake 3-0-17-1; A J Hollioake 2.3-0-13-2

Umpires: M J Kitchen and K J Lyons

Northamptonshire v Kent

NORTHAMPTON (Kent won toss): Kent (4pts) beat Northamptonshire by four wickets

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

R R Montgomerie lbw b Hooper	66
M B Loye c Headley b Fleming	24
K M Curran c Headley b Hooper	8
A L Penberthy c Llong b Headley	70
D J Capel run out	13
T C Walton c Ward b Fleming	40
J N Snape b Fleming	0
*J E Emburey not out	5
Extras (w 5, nb 4)	9
Total (7 wkts, 40 overs)	235

†D Ripley, C E L Ambrose and J P Taylor did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-64, 2-93, 3-109, 4-123, 5-211, 6-213, 7-235

BOWLING: Headley 8-0-40-1; Wren 8-0-35-0; McCague 8-0-64-0; Fleming 8-0-55-3; Hooper 8-0-41-2

KENT

M V Fleming b Capel	72
M J Walker b Emburey	21
C L Hooper lbw b Capel	11
*T R Ward b Capel	13
N J Llong c Ripley b Capel	21
G R Cowdrey not out	52
W J House c Ripley b Ambrose	17
†S C Willis not out	5
Extras (lb 1, lb 7, w 6, nb 10)	24
Total (6 wkts, 38.4 overs)	236

M J McCague, D W Headley and T N Wren did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-58, 2-106, 3-128, 4-141, 5-162, 6-218

BOWLING: Ambrose 7.4-0-28-1; Taylor 8-0-67-0; Emburey 8-1-37-1; Curran 2-0-24-0; Capel 8-1-44-4; Snape 5-0-28-0

Umpires: V A Holder and B J Meyer

Nottinghamshire v Middlesex

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss): Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Middlesex by nine wickets

MIDDLESEX

P N Weekes b Evans	5
*M R Ramprakash run out	4
J C Pooley c Bates b Bowen	14
J D Carr c Bowen b Cairns	20
O A Shah run out	38
†K R Brown b Evans	25
K P Dutch c Evans b Tolley	3
J P Hewitt lbw b Cairns	6
R L Johnson not out	2
A R C Fraser b Cairns	8
R A Fay c Bates b Cairns	0
Extras (lb 7, w 3, nb 2)	12
Total (31.4 overs)	137

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-20, 3-31, 4-70, 5-108, 6-116, 7-127, 8-127, 9-137

BOWLING: Evans 8-0-34-2; Bowen 8-1-34-1; Tolley 8-1-25-1; Cairns 5.4-0-22-4; Dowman 2-0-15-0

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

R T Robinson not out	66
M P Dowman c Shah b Fraser	33
*P Johnson not out	19
Extras (lb 6, w 9, nb 6)	21
Total (1 wkt, 25.1 overs)	139

P R Pollard, A A Metcalfe, C M Tolley, C L Cairns, K P Evans, †W M Noon, R T Bates and M N Bowen did not bat

FALL OF WICKET: 1-83

BOWLING: Fay 8-0-36-0; Johnson 5-0-27-0; Fraser 6-0-31-1; Weekes 2-0-21-0; Hewitt 4-1-14-0; Ramprakash 0.1-0-4-0

Umpires: H D Bird and N T Plews

Somerset v Essex

TAUNTON (Somerset won toss): Somerset (4pts) beat Essex by eight wickets

ESSEX

D D J Robinson c Kerr b Trescothick	28
A J E Hibbert retired hurt	8
R C Irani c Rose b Kerr	58
S G Law c Trescothick b Trump	15
*P J Prichard b Kerr	16
†R J Rollins b Lee	1
J J B Lewis b Kerr	4
M C Ilott b Lee	3
A P Grayson c Trump b Lee	4
S J W Andrew not out	0
Extras (lb 3, w 8)	11
Total (8 wkts, 32 overs)	148

P M Such did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-92, 3-120, 4-121, 5-140, 6-141, 7-148, 8-148

BOWLING: Rose 6-0-20-0; Kerr 6-0-27-3; Parsons 3-0-18-0; Trescothick 3-0-13-1; Trump 7.0-39-1; Lee 7-1-28-3

SOMERSET

M N Lathwell st Rollins b Grayson	51
*P D Bowler not out	68
S C Ecclestone run out	1
R J Harden not out	27
Extras (lb 2, w 3)	5
Total (2 wkts, 30.5 overs)	152

M E Trescothick, [illegible] J Turner, G D Rose, J I D Kerr and H R J Trump did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-90, 2-95

BOWLING: Andrew 4-0-16-0; Ilott 6-0-22-0; Such 7-0-30-0; Irani 2-0-16-0; Grayson 7-0-37-1; Law 4.5-0-29-0

Umpires: G I Burgess and T E Jesty

Sussex v Derbyshire

HOVE (Derbyshire won toss): Sussex (4pts) beat Derbyshire by a higher run rate

DERBYSHIRE

*D M Jones c Moores b Giddins	30
K J Barnett b Law	39
C J Adams not out	88
G A Khan b Salisbury	7
T J G O'Gorman b Salisbury	14
P A J DeFreitas c Moores b Kirtley	3
†K M Krikken not out	27
Extras (lb 1, lb 9, w 12, nb 2)	24
Total (5 wkts, 40 overs)	232

G M Roberts, M J Vandrau, D R Womble and K J Dean did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-66, 2-96, 3-107, 4-147, 5-154

BOWLING: Drakes 8-0-43-0; Kirtley 8-0-51-1; Giddins 8-1-49-1; Law 8-0-41-1; Salisbury 8-1-38-2

SUSSEX

K Greenfield c and b Roberts	60
K Newell c Adams b DeFreitas	10
G R Haywood c O'Gorman b Dean	4
A P Wells c Dean b Roberts	38
*M Newell b Barnett	46
D R Law not out	27
Extras (lb 6, w 3, nb 4)	13
Total (5 wkts, 33.5 overs)	200

†P Moores, I D K Salisbury, V C Drakes, E S H Giddins and R J Kirtley did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-31, 3-104, 4-143, 5-200

BOWLING: DeFreitas 8-1-34-1; Dean 8-0-34-1; Vandrau 4-0-27-0; Roberts 8-0-49-2; Barnett 2.5-0-21-1; Womble 3-0-29-0

Umpires: B Dudleston and R Palmer.

Warwickshire v Durham

EDGBASTON (Durham won toss): Warwickshire (4pts) beat Durham by 88 runs

WARWICKSHIRE

A J Moles b Saggers	7
N M K Smith c Walker b Brown	8
D P Ostler b Boling	27
D R Brown lbw b Boling	17
T L Penney lbw b Killeen	22
S M Pollock c Collingwood b Brown	56
W G Khan b Saggers	5
†M Burns c Killeen b Brown	20
A F Giles not out	3
G C Small not out	5
Extras (b 3, lb 7, w 5, nb 2)	17
Total (8 wkts, 40 overs)	187

*T A Munton did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-19, 3-67, 4-85, 5-109, 6-118, 7-176, 8-180.

BOWLING: Brown 8-0-50-3; Saggers 8-0-24-2; Killeen 8-0-41-1; Boling 8-1-25-2; Walker 8-0-37-0

DURHAM

S L Campbell run out	10
S Hutton c Penney b Pollock	1
J Boling c Burns b Small	27
J A Daley c Burns b Small	7
P D Collingwood b Smith	0
R M S Weston b Small	13
†D G C Ligertwood b Small	0
M J Saggers b Pollock	13
N Killeen run out	3
*S J E Brown not out	0
A Walker b Giles	0
Extras (b 8, lb 8, w 4, nb 2)	22
Total (32.4 overs)	99

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-23, 3-45, 4-46, 5-58, 6-58, 7-80, 8-88, 9-88

BOWLING: Pollock 6-1-17-2; Munton 6-0-20-0; Smith 8-0-21-1; Small 8-3-14-4; Giles 4.4-1-11-1.

Umpires: J D Bond and G Sharp.

NO PLAY YESTERDAY: Southampton: Hampshire (2pts) v Gloucestershire (2)

Tour match

Worcestershire v South Africa A

WORCESTER (third day of four): Worcestershire, with four second-innings wickets in hand, require 212 runs to beat South Africa A

SOUTH AFRICA A: First Innings 202 (J B Commins 61, B E A Preece 4 for 79, P A Thomas 4 for 33)

Second Innings

S G Koenig c Leatherdale b Thomas	0
G F J Liebenberg c Rhodes b Leatherdale	33
H H Gibbs c Ralph b Ellis	5
*J B Commins b Leatherdale	22
D N Crookes c Spring b Preece	62
N Boje c Spring b Leatherdale	4
†S J Palframan b Leatherdale	6
M W Pringle c Rhodes b Thomas	105
G Smith b Thomas	5
G Gilder c Rhodes b Preece	23
P R Adams not out	25
Extras (lb 14, w 3, nb 18)	35
Total	325

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-11, 3-76, 4-87, 5-96, 6-114, 7-185, 8-194, 9-235.

BOWLING: Thomas 20-0-109-3; Ellis 5-1-22-1; Preece 16-1-80-2; Leatherdale 16-2-75-4; Amjad 4-0-25-0

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 77 (G Gilder 8 for 22)

Second Innings

W P C Weston c Boje b Smith	17
M J Church c sub b Smith	31
K R Spring c Liebenberg b Gilder	4
V S Solanki lbw b Gilder	29
D A Leatherdale c sub b Pringle	73
J T Ralph c Liebenberg b Pringle	0
*†S J Rhodes not out	41
S W K Ellis not out	5
Extras (b 14, lb 6, w 1, nb 18)	39
Total (6 wkts)	239

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-34, 3-54, 4-98, 5-107, 6-232

BOWLING: Gilder 19-5-43-2; Smith 18-5-53-2; Pringle 20-4-75-2; Adams 4-1-10-0; Crookes 1-0-7-0; Gibbs 4-0-15-0; Boje 3-0-16-0

Umpires: B Leadbeater and N G Cowley.

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CRICKET: WARWICKSHIRE BATSMAN MAKES HIS MARK FOR ENGLAND IN HEADINGLEY TEST THAT MAY PROVE LOST OPPORTUNITY

Knight plunders fine hundred in Stewart's wake

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

HEADINGLEY (fourth day of five): Pakistan, with all second-innings wickets standing, are 53 runs behind England

ENGLAND spent the weekend batting with verve and character between the Yorkshire showers, amassing a total that many had considered beyond them against this passionate Pakistan attack. But there was no cause for celebration in the dressing-room last night, only for regret over what might have been.

By scoring 501 when the Headingley pitch was at its most placid, England simply emphasised the heavy cost of their ineptitude on the opening day. If they had bowled even adequately on Thursday, when conditions were loaded in favour of their seam bowlers, this second Cornhill Test would have taken a very different course. England, almost certainly, would by now be on the point of winning it.

There is no escaping this conclusion and there may be no coming back from it. England's management was acutely aware that Headingley presented their best, perhaps only opportunity to level the series following the dramatic defeat at Lord's. The weather was kind to them, so too the toss, and the game plan perished not for its design but its execution.

If, as now seems all but certain, this game ends drawn today, Pakistan hold all the good cards going into the final Test at The Oval. They lead 1-0 and the ground holds no terrors for them after their win there, early on the fourth day, in 1992. England have missed their chance and they should be berating themselves.

Positive thinking, however, will dictate that they focus on the good things to emerge from this game, of which there have been plenty. Yesterday, for instance, Nick Knight became the second England century-maker. Whereas Alec Stewart's hundred was his first in almost two years of Test cricket, Knight's was a maiden century made in only his fifth Test. It was also an extremely good one.

Stewart, on Saturday, was defying the theory that his England career was on borrowed time and doing it triumphantly well. The paradox was that his innings, the best he has played for England since making centuries in each innings of the win in Barbados in 1994, applied an additional pressure on Knight, who had been shuffled down to No 6 to accommodate Stewart's return to opening.

Aware that the six-batsmen policy will not necessarily survive at the Oval, Knight recognised his vulnerability. He needed a convincing innings and he played it, giving the selectors a potential problem of the right kind. No selectors worth their salt will complain at the need to choose between worthy candidates; it is when nobody demands selection that their job becomes thankless.

Another benefit England will take from this game is the psychological one of knowing they can make substantial scores against these bowlers. It will be different in other conditions, of course, but since Wasim Akram aroused familiar fears with his rapid dispatch of Michael Atherton on Friday evening the Pakistan attack has looked almost ordinary.

Waqar Younis, the scourge of England's batting at Lord's, struggled in vain for his rhythm on Saturday, finding that the sloping approaches of Headingley are not conducive to balance for a fast bowler who hurtles to the crease like an Olympic sprinter. Yesterday, settling in at the Football Stand End, he took two for 17 in 11 overs but until then he had conceded five runs an over and rarely located the right line.

Although the Reader ball was changed twice at the Pakistanis' request, and despite Wasim persevering for an excessive 122 overs before resorting to a second new one, the reverse swing of fear and fable was conspicuously absent. Without it, and with no sharp turn for Mushtaq Ahmed, Pakistan's main weapons were disarmed.

Waqar's one wicket on Saturday was that of Nasser Hussain, deceived by a looping off break. When Mushtaq penned Graham Thorpe on his crease and Kabir took the propped catch at short-leg England were still in danger of following on, but the rest of the day featured two refreshingly forthright partnerships, supervised by Stewart but showing John Crawley and Knight in an impressive light.

Crawley is utterly unfazed by Mushtaq. He believes he can pick his googly and he did so unerringly. He also played some fluent, near disdainful drives off the seam bowlers in making 53 of a stand worth 89. Crawley will be cross that he did not go on — he has been getting out around the fifty mark too often for peace of mind — but this was his most assertive batting for England.

Stewart, who had celebrated his century with an uninhibited abandon that told much of his recent torment, fell late in the day, driving a return catch to Mushtaq, but Knight took control of the remainder of the innings, scoring his runs at a good pace and punishing anything loose outside off stump with uncomplicated vigour.

He too, was not inconvenienced by leg spin and, having made runs against Mushtaq for Warwickshire, he struck him impertinently over mid-wicket on more than one occasion. His best stroke, however, was reserved for the new ball and for Rehman — a cover-driven four struck on the up with complete certainty.

Other batsmen were finding some odd ways to get out. Russell dragged a rising ball from Wasim into his stumps; as it was only the second delivery with the new ball, Wasim may have wished he had taken it sooner. Lewis was then bowled between his legs by Mushtaq before Knight square-cut for four to reach his century in a little under four hours.

Dominic Cork, making some overdue runs, carried the total past 500, something England have not achieved at Headingley for 29 years, but by now the light was grim and it was clear Pakistan would not begin their second innings.

Soon, more rain was sweeping down, eliminating the final two hours of play and leaving England more time to rue a game that got away.

HEADINGLEY SCOREBOARD

England won toss

PAKISTAN First Innings 448 (Ijaz Ahmed 141, Moin Khan 105, Salim Malik 55, Asif Mujtaba 51, D G Cork 5 for 113).

ENGLAND: First Innings

*M A Atherton c Moin b Wasim (12mm, 13 balls, 2 fours)	12
A J Stewart c and b Mushtaq (438min, 315 balls, 24 fours)	170
N Hussain c and b Waqar (110min, 85 balls, 5 fours)	48
G P Thorpe c Shadab b Mushtaq (82min, 54 balls, 2 fours)	16
J P Crawley c Moin b Rehman (134mm, 115 balls, 5 fours)	53
N V Knight c Mushtaq b Waqar (258min, 176 balls, 18 fours)	113
†R C Russell b Wasim (73min, 49 balls, 1 four)	9
C C Lewis b Mushtaq (57mn, 41 balls)	9
D G Cork c Shadab b Wasim (86min, 71 balls, 3 fours)	26
A R Caddick b Waqar (8mn, 5 balls, 1 four)	4
A D Mullally not out (45min, 23 balls, 1 six)	9
Extras (b 7, lb 23, nb 2)	32
Total (156.5 overs, 655min)	501

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14 (Stewart 2), 2-121 (Stewart 58), 3-168 (Stewart 86), 4-257 (Stewart 114), 5-365 (Knight 43), 6-402 (Knight 70), 7-441 (Knight 96), 8-465 (Cork 7), 9-471 (Cork 9).

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 39.5-10-106-3 (nb 1, 1 six, 10 fours; 7-0-22-1, 7-2-9-0, 7-3-21-0, 6-3-20-0, 11-2-26-1, 1.5-0-8-1); Waqar Younis 33-7-127-3 (nb 1, 17 fours, 1-0-11-0, 3-0-26-0, 6-1-21-1, 4-0-18-0, 3-1-14-0, 11-3-27-0, 5-2-10-2), Ata-ur-Rehman 22-1-90-1 (nb 4; 12 fours, 3-0-15-0, 3-0-5-0, 7-0-18-0, 6-1-31-1, 3-0-21-0); Mushtaq Ahmed 55-17-142-3 (19 fours; 8-2-22-0, 16-7-32-1, 1-0-4-0, 5-3-11-0, 2-0-15-0, 9-2-30-1, 14-3-28-1), Asif Mujtaba 7-5-6-0 (1 four; one spell)

SCORING NOTES: Third day (start delayed 60min) Lunch: 145-2 (40 overs, 166min, Stewart 72, Thorpe 9) Tea: 243-3 (73 overs, 315min: Stewart 113, Crawley 40) Close: (bad light ended play 5 overs prematurely at 6 53pm) - 373-5 (110 overs, 458min, Knight 51, Russell 0) Fourth day (start delayed 104min) Lunch: 378-5 (115 overs, 478min, Knight 53, Russell 2) Tea: 473-9 (147.2 overs, 617mm, Cork 9, Mullally 0). Second new ball. 402-5 (122.4 overs) at 2 13pm

UMPIRES: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and D R Shepherd Third umpire: R Julian

Match referee: P L van der Merwe.

SERIES DETAILS: First Test (Lord's) Pakistan won by 164 runs Test to come: Third (The Oval) August 22 to 26

☐ Compiled by Bill Frindall

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Knight shows his elation at completing the century which secures his Test place

Wasim's happy band strikes the right note

MICHAEL HENDERSON

At Headingley

The Pakistanis have recruited an unlikely ally on this latest tour of England: Dale Carnegie. Wasim Akram has led such a contented group of players that they appear to have heeded the American author's famous advice on how to win friends and influence people. Winning helps, of course, but the atmosphere on the field has been healthy and happy, with wickets and runs punctuated by smiles and laughter.

The last tour, four years ago, was fraught with misunderstandings, not to mention "incidents". The "lowlight" of that acrimonious series was the bust-up at Old Trafford when that notable sportsman, Mr J. Miandad, failed to keep his players in check after Aqib Javed remonstrated about a trivial point of order with Roy Palmer, the umpire.

Indeed, far from restraining them, Miandad egged them on like a reckless schoolboy, who likes to goad the teacher but prefers other children to have their collars felt. It worked, too. In a feeble response to this unruly behaviour, Conrad Hunte, the International Cricket Council match referee, imitated Pontius Pilate, telling the captains they were responsible for what their players got up to.

How different it all is this this summer. The relationship between Wasim and Michael Atherton has filtered down to the ranks, so there has not been any unpleasantness on the field — as opposed to off it, where those on the western terrace have lived down to their reputation. Even David Attenborough would think twice before venturing into that mephitic jungle.

When Nick Knight left the field yesterday, after completing his first Test century, nobody applauded much more vigorously than little Mushtaq Ahmed, the man whose catch ended his innings. "Mushy" is having a whale of a time this summer, bowling splendidly and sharing a joke with anybody who wants to join in. Those smiles are a bracing antidote to the snarls and fisticuffs that Headingley witnessed yet again on Saturday afternoon.

Wasim can take much of the credit for the transformation of attitudes. His contribution may be compared with that of his mentor and fellow Lahori, whose name quite escapes me, and ultimately it might be more telling because he does not regard the team as his personal fiefdom.

The other chap (does anybody know whatever became of him?) is nothing if not self-important, and sounds increasingly pompous in his public statements. Wasim, who is more tolerant of less gifted players, does not see the point in brushing up his halo, and he has had much the more difficult job.

Captains of Pakistan, like Italian prime ministers and Newcastle centre forwards, are never around for long before another one comes along. Wasim found that out soon after he succeeded thingummyjig in 1992. Within a 12-month he was unseated by a players' revolt and he got the job back only last winter, for the tour of Australia and New Zealand, after the selectors had run through the card.

Before the first Test in Brsibane, which Pakistan lost inside four days, Wasim stated unequivocally: "My main mission is to restore our reputation." By the end of that series he had helped to do that from a cricketing point of view. Pakistan won the Sydney Test in fine style and, although they came unstuck during the World Cup, they have begun anew in England.

From the start of this tour, their players were smiling and taking time to talk to people. It may be that, having suffered the outrageous calumnies of their fellow countrymen after losing to India in the World Cup quarter-final, they realise that cricket, however important, is not everything.

So the manner of this series, established at Lord's, has continued satisfactorily at Headingley, although the big ball debate, frankly, has become tiresome. Predictably there were some ribald comments aimed at the Pakistanis on Saturday, when the ball apparently lost its shape, and the most ribald of the lot came from a former player who should know better. F. S Trueman thought the ground was half-empty on the first day because there are "no personalities" any more. Perhaps it is just as well.

Illingworth era seems set for bitter ending

Illingworth: private joke

BY ALAN LEE

WHEN Raymond Illingworth clambered on to a chair on the players' balcony yesterday and acclaimed Nick Knight's century with the fervour of a fan on the western terrace, it was a rare shaft of humour from a man who has recently worn little but his grumpiest expression.

The faintly ludicrous sight of the chairman of selectors with his arms aloft was his private joke, directed at the Sunday tabloids that mischievously drew attention to television pictures apparently showing him less than ecstatic when Alec Stewart, with whom he had what may be politely called a misunderstanding in the spring, reached 100 on Saturday. Illingworth said the pictures, and the reports, misrepresented him, and that he had already acknowledged the century. But at least he was able to chuckle about it, and react accordingly. There have been other areas of the game this summer in which he feels he has been misrepresented, or not represented at all, and he does not feel remotely amused by them.

The curmudgeonly side of Illingworth has been given full rein this summer. His countenance has been constantly clouded by the ongoing saga of the disciplinary case brought against him by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) and the consequent fine that he refuses to accept as just. It has influenced his every act, infiltrated his every conversation.

On Saturday he learnt that his appeal will be heard by the Cricket Council on Tuesday September 3, which means he will make two valedictory appearances at Lord's in a week. Six days after the appeal, he will meet with his fellow selectors to choose the winter tour parties, his final duty before standing down as chairman with what he says will be "great relief".

"There are things that have gone on this summer that I just don't agree with," he said, obliquely. "I haven't enjoyed the last few months and the way I feel now I shall be glad to get away from the game and spend some time at my winter home in Spain." It is a shame to hear him speak this way and a thousand shames that his lifetime in cricket is evidently about to end on a bitter note. The England team needs an upbeat chairman; his point, however, is that the chairman needs a united game and he feels the corridors of power have not exactly chorused their support for him.

Although Illingworth has only grudgingly accommodated a shift of emphasis, and a change of generations, under the new coach, David Lloyd, his darker moods have little to do with those inside the England dressing-room. His complaints, I understand, relate squarely to the offices of the TCCB.

He considers he was not properly consulted over the Actield report into the workings of the national team and, remarkably, he had not even seen a copy of it until last Wednesday, a week after its publication. "And there have been other things that I've found out about third-hand," he said, mysteriously.

Illingworth took this up with Alan Smith, chief executive of the Board, at Lord's a fortnight ago. He has, he said, made his views plain, which, as all who have met him will be aware, will have left no room for ambiguity. It is this frankness that will be missed when he heads for Spain. Old grump or not, nobody need climb on a chair to applaud his going.

Cork and company can learn from past masters

John Woodcock laments the failure of England's seamers to bowl a full length

England's bowling is so patterned at the moment, and so deficient, that it has been a great encouragement to see them batting well and, on the whole, forcefully in the second Test match against Pakistan. Only by doing so can they possibly hope to prosper, other than on pitches that are inferior enough to compensate for the limitations of their attack.

All sides are vulnerable, however well they normally bat, after a long and unrewarding stint in the field. The initiative is against them, so that the time came yesterday when England might have been better served by a slightly more adventurous approach. There was much to be said for getting Pakistan in again, sooner rather than later. But to total 501 with only 28 of them coming from Atherton and Thorpe still augured well. Stewart is fully restored, and we have a new, young left-handed century-maker, and that is excellent news.

There had been much less on the first two days of the match to raise our spirits. I am not going to say that with a spinner in their side England would have bowled Pakistan out in their first innings any less expensively that they did. I very much doubt whether they would. Their best spinner, who is generally considered to be Tufnell, seems anyway to be *persona non grata*, a state of affairs that does no one any credit. But the tedium of a one-paced attack is, of itself, subversive, and even on a green pitch, which this one at Headingley never has been, three seamers should be sufficient — certainly three proper seamers.

'Emphasis on digging ball in'

Here, perhaps, is the nub — for England no longer possess the array of probingly accurate medium-pacers who were traditionally the envy of other countries. That maybe a little unkind to Caddick, who could well have got among the Paksitanis had the luck been with him last Thursday morning; but there is precious little similarity between the way Cork and Lewis bowl today and the way Alec Bedser and the other great users of the seam used to do.

To start with, it has become unfashionable to pitch the ball up. The emphasis today is on trying to make the batsmen flinch: on digging the ball in. This is the main reason why more and more bowlers are breaking down; from their formative years they overstrain themselves trying to get the ball to fly. Chris Lewis is no more a seamer in the classical mould than the Walrus and the Carpenter.

If England's attack at Headingley had consisted, let us say, of Bedser, Derek Shackleton, Trevor Bailey and Brian Statham, Pakistan's batsmen would have been brought constantly onto the front foot last Thursday morning, into that area where lateral movement is least welcome and most remunerative. Those bowlers would have known how best to exploit the conditions, not least because all their days were spent bowling to get sides out, rather than concentrating on containment.

I read last week of how the England Under-15 side had "crushed" their Canadian counterparts in the Lombard World Challenge. Closer inspection revealed that in reply to England's 344 for five Canada had made 173 for five. In the days of England's glory that was a draw; now it is hailed as a triumph, although all it is is an exercise in attrition, lifted, no doubt, by some likely batting and agile fielding, the sort of fielding, that is, that nearly took Cork out of the present Test match almost before it had started, but which has become an essential, or at any rate a compulsory part of the modern game. Other than in a tight finish, the sight of his leading bowler crashing into a boundary wall even before he had bowled an over would have had an old-time captain saying: "Steady on, you're not at Twickenham now. Don't do that again."

'Tedium of one-paced attack'

Statham, wonderfully athletic and contortionately double-jointed, never threw himself at anything in his life; but what would we give for him now! If this sounds a rather grudging observation after two of England's much better days, it is only made because it is so vital that our young cricketers should not be deceived into thinking that sliding tackles and draws that are called victories are more important than bowling sides out. Only when we get back to making that the priority can England's success be more than fitful. It is absolutely fundamental — no less than the need to take the covers off the pitches as a means to the same end.

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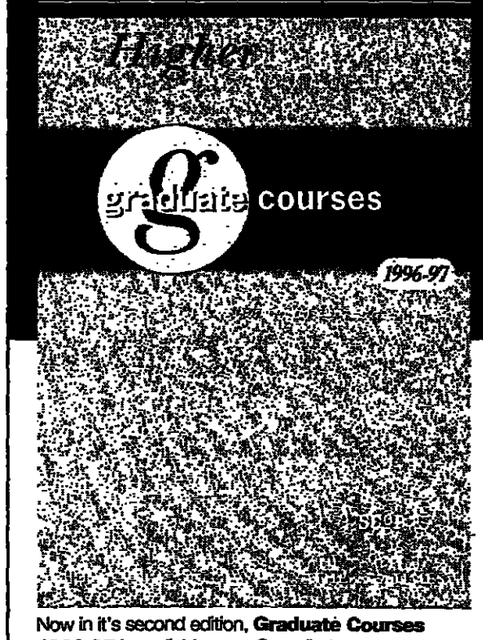

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CRICKET

Excitement of race for title cannot conceal mediocrity

ALAN LEE

Championship Commentary

This county championship race has been distinguished by quantity rather than quality and it is growing more confusing by the week. Seven points will cover the top five teams this evening if Derbyshire win at Hove and Leicestershire's frustrations at Swansea continue.

Three-day wins for Essex and Kent on Saturday ensured that Surrey, who won on Friday, would not slip the field. Leicestershire will return to the top if they beat Glamorgan but they missed the main chance by permitting a remarkable recovery in which the doughty Tony Cottey scored 203 and the last four wickets added 300.

The best of this round of matches, however, is at Hove, where Sussex have engineered an improbable winning position from what threatened to be an embarrassment. Martin Speight's century, followed by five wickets for Vasbert Drakes, created a fourth-innings target of 276 against Derbyshire and they resume this morning on 91 for two.

Victory would retain the prospect of Sussex winning the championship which, with their potent and varied bowling attack, is perhaps not as absurd as it seems. Nothing, however, better illustrates the contrary nature of a season that began, for Sussex, with an innings defeat by Warwickshire and the plain possibility that they were heading back where they languished at this stage last season — rock bottom.

Early August saw Sussex at their 1995 nadir. Five consecutive championship games were lost and the coach, Norman Gifford, resigned in despair, subsequently settling for taking charge of Durham, whose awfulness is at least more predictable. Sussex's inconsistency remains an exasperation to their supporters and if only their batting was not so brittle they could be genuine contenders.

The bowlers who have carried them up the table, however, may not be together much longer. Ed Giddins faces a Test and County Cricket Board discipline committee on drugs charges a week today and, whatever its outcome, club and maverick fast bowler seem likely to part company. There is also a persistent rumour that Ian Salisbury has itchy feet; a move to Surrey is the tip. Giddins's loss would be a pity, Salisbury's a crying shame.

If Sussex do win today they will become only the second side to beat Derbyshire since the opening week of the season. The first was Northamptonshire, for whom this remains a solitary success in what has been a bewilderingly poor summer.

The comparisons continue. While Sussex were bottom of the table this time last year, Northamptonshire were top, apparently in sight of their first title. Warwickshire deprived them but they still secured a top-five finish for the fourth successive year. This season their championship form has been dire and they would be in some danger of the wooden spoon were it not for the comforting cushion provided by Durham, whose attack, led by the admirable Simon Brown, has astonishingly gleaned more bowling bonus points than any other county. They just do not bat well enough to win, though, and the familiar second-innings decline is in prospect again at Edgbaston today, when they resume on 24 for two in pursuit of a distant 412.

The only remaining question about Durham is whether they will complete the season without a win. It seems inevitable they will finish bottom for the third time in their five-year existence, which offers a measure of reprieve to a club that has slipped from mightier habits into serious decline, Nottinghamshire.

Middlesex, riven by injuries, have not threatened a title challenge this year but they were still good enough to flatten Nottinghamshire by an innings on Saturday, with a welcome return to form for one of their recent walking wounded, Richard Johnson. For his namesake, Paul, it was one more dismal day in what has been a chastening first season as Nottinghamshire's captain.

He was heckled and booed by what passed for a crowd at Trent Bridge on Saturday after his fourth-ball nought had extended his wretched batting form — he has a mere 99 runs from eight innings. Under at least equal pressure is the club coach, Alan Ormrod, and, while the story came as a mystery to both parties, Graham Gooch has already been linked with his job.

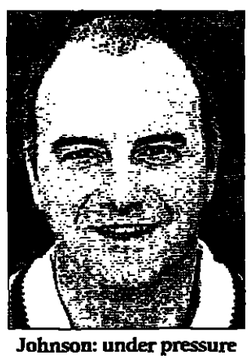
Perhaps it is simply that Nottinghamshire have their priorities wrong. Certainly, they gave out depressing signals with the close-season signings of Ashley Metcalfe and Chris Tolley, respectively aged 32 and 28 and considered dispensable by their previous counties.

Would it not have been better and braver to encourage the young talent within the club, players such as Matthew Dowman and Usman Afzaal, who have languished too long in the second-team?

Is this not the worst failing of English cricket, the instinct to seek the security of those who have achieved a certain level — if a mediocre one — rather than to invest in youth?

Almost certainly, it is a reason for the traffic jam at the top of this year's championship, where standards are too uniformly ordinary. It should also caution us against wasting too much sympathy on those at the bottom.

Speight: century-maker



Johnson: under pressure

Revitalised Wells taps his hidden depths

Ivo Tennant meets a man making the most of a new lease of life at the age of 31

There is a view within the English game, held by Sir Colin Cowdrey among others, that a batsman does not reach maturity until the age of 30. As well as those blessed with lavish gifts, he had in mind the artisan, the type of professional who comes to the fore when little-known beyond his county's boundaries. For example, a cricketer such as Vince Wells.

Few could have matured so rapidly upon reaching this age as Wells. Here was an all-rounder who could bat anywhere, bowl niggardly seam-up and keep wicket and yet who found he had no future with Kent, the county of his birth. After four seasons on their staff, he had not convinced them that he possessed a talent to master these three differing skills. So, in 1992, he joined Leicestershire, who were taking on any number of discarded cricketers.

At Grace Road, there was no crowd, no cricketing week, no sense of history. Even the wheelbarrow had a hole in it. Wells appeared a functional cricketer in functional surroundings. But there was Jack Birkenshaw, one of the shrewdest of judges of a cricketer. The Leicestershire manager had seen that this unassuming 26-year-old, as he then was, had the makings of becoming more than just a useful bits-and-pieces performer who could stand in for the senior players when they were injured.

"I could tell that Vince was a lovely timer of the ball who could play all round the wicket," Birkenshaw said. "His unfortunate trait was that he was too nice to grumble when he was left out of the Kent side. He had probably been used a bit — this sometimes happens to the people who are the least trouble. He did not know where he was going in, whether he was bowling or whether he was keeping wicket. Now, he suddenly realises that he can bat. He can play the short ball. If he is a late developer, it is only because his opportunities have come later in life."

Wells on his way to a career-best 204 against Northamptonshire earlier this month

How he has taken them. Last season he made 645 runs and took 19 wickets in the championship — bits-and-pieces stuff. This year, given the chance to open owing to Nigel Briers's injury and subsequent retirement, he has come up with one large innings after another. In three consecutive matches, one of them in the NatWest Trophy, he made 200, 201 and 197. This was followed by 204, his career-best score, against Northamptonshire. He coped against the new ball through a confidence he had not known before.

"Opening the innings has given me a more responsible outlook. My mental approach is different. I have tightened up my technique and become a better player off the back foot," he said. "I've looked to play more straight and off my legs more — it all comes from growing in confidence.

"James Whitaker, my captain, has been a great help. He talked to me last winter about batting higher in the order and encouraged me to bat in half-hour sessions at a time. I believe I can continue to improve.

"But, if Nigel had not been injured, I would have gone in no higher than five or six. Although I was attached to Leyton Orient when a schoolboy centre forward, I have always desperately wanted to play county cricket — there are not too many jobs where you can wake up and look forward to going in to work.

"At Kent I felt I was good enough and did well in the second XI. The trouble was that there were all-rounders such as Richard Ellison, Chris Penn and Eldine Baptiste ahead of me and, although I made my debut as a wicket-keeper, even my chances of doing that were limited."

> 'I shall be very disappointed if he does not get on England's A tour this winter'

Wells had left Dartford before. For six years in his childhood, his parents, who were hairdressers, went to work in New Zealand. His only regret is that, on account of opening, he has not bowled as often as he did. His captain likes to conserve his energy.

But it has been worth it. Wells's career batting average before this year was 28.76. His average for this season has risen to over 40. "Vince will do anything you ask of him. He is a good lad and I try to sign nice people," Birkenshaw said. "He was 31 last week but I shall be very disappointed if he does not get on England's A tour this winter because he is a better player than some the selectors seem keen on."

Another Gibbs prepares to enter the Test match arena

Simon Wilde reports on Herschelle Gibbs, the South Africa A team batsman, who is likely to return to torment England

His is not a bad curriculum vitae. He is 22 years old; sprinted 100 metres in less than 11 seconds at school; is a useful footballer and a good enough rugby player — in the opinion of those that know him — to play internationally had he put his mind to it and can hit a cricket ball in an exceptional manner.

The good news for cricket is that he chose to make the sport his career. The bad news for England is that he is South African and will doubtless permit their Test team an all too lengthy inspection of his talent in the near future. Some county teams are already acquainted with it, Herschelle Gibbs being — by some distance — the leading run-scorer on South Africa A's tour of England this summer.

The South Africans are treating the visit as a reconnaissance mission before a five-Test tour in 1998 and the World Cup in 1999. It will be a big surprise if Gibbs is not back here then but, about this particular cricketer, a rider must be added: predictions are a dangerous business.

Five years ago, Gibbs was building himself a reputation as a fine, all-round sportsman at Bishop's, one of the best — and, therefore, largely white — public schools in Cape Town. He was attracting an unusual amount of interest, not only because of his achievements on the sports field but also because he was — is — a Cape Coloured.

He was selected to play cricket for Western Province and, at the age of 16, became the youngest player in the team's history. A great future was forecast for him. There the trouble started. "The new South Africa has been quite confusing for young men like Herschelle," Duncan Fletcher, the A team coach, said. "There are certain people wanting them to do well for political reasons. He was denied the space he needed to grow."

Many talented sportsmen plunge into such troughs, where they experience the thing no one had anticipated for them: failure. In Gibbs's case this lasted a long time, so long that many gave up on him. For four years, he languished in the Province's B team, showing nothing like his potential.

"I was told by others that I was wasting my time," Fletcher, who also works with Western Province, said. "And even in the middle of last year Herschelle did not appear to have the right temperament. But I've always been a great fan of his and we have a good relationship. So last season I used him as an opener in a domestic one-day competition and told him to play his shots. He scored a lot of runs."

Gibbs: great future

Gibbs does not think his time in the wilderness was wasted. "I was not ready when I was first chosen for [Western] Province and during those four years I was not mentally prepared either," he said. "I like to score freely and there simply were not as many loose balls around as I was used to. But the experience will help me in the long run. I have played against more experienced men than others of my age."

He has shown his maturity this summer, although his colleagues have hardly acted as callow youths themselves. They have collectively played with a steely-edged competitiveness that has raised some eyebrows. Gibbs has scored 839 runs in 11 first-class innings, with highest scores of 183 against MCC and 178 against Surrey, an innings that contained eight sixes. Though small in build, he is strong and hits the ball so hard that when Gregor Kennis caught him at cover in the Surrey match he was forced off the field with a severely bruised hand.

Gibbs is pleased with his form on the tour, which culminates later this week in a four-day fixture against a TCCB XI at Chester-le-Street, but he is conscious that few opposing sides have put out their strongest attacks. He would like to come back to play county cricket next year, but already has a prior engagement: Ali Bacher, the managing director of the South African Cricket Board, has put his name down for the country's main cricket academy in Johannesburg.

Fletcher finds it hard to pick out one innings from many exceptional ones played by Gibbs in recent weeks, but he is now sure about one thing: "I will be absolutely amazed if Herschelle does not play Test cricket, and play it very soon."

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Glamorgan v Leicestershire

SWANSEA (third day of four): Leicestershire, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 244 runs ahead of Glamorgan

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 536 (B F Smith 190, P V Simmons 92, P A Cottey 4 for 42)

Second Innings

V J Wells c sub b Croft	46
D L Maddy b Thomas	2
G I Macmillan c Metson b Thomas	31
B F Smith not out	27
A Habib not out	23
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 1, nb 2)	12
Total (3 wkts)	141

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-66, 3-99

BOWLING: Gibson 6-0-31-0, Thomas 7-0-40-2, Croft 9-1-17-1, Butcher 2-0-16-0, Cottey 7-0-22-0, Maynard 2-0-6-0

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James c Wells b Millns	5
H Morris run out	8
A W Evans c Simmons b Wells	13
*M P Maynard b Simmons	21
P A Cottey b Simmons	203
G P Butcher c Wells b Simmons	3
†C P Metson b Brimson	1
O D Gibson b Pierson	97
R D B Croft lbw b Simmons	29
S D Thomas c Parsons b Simmons	4
N M Kendrick not out	0
Extras (b 6, lb 11, w 1, nb 31)	49
Total (117.3 overs)	433

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-28, 3-35, 4-104, 5-118, 6-127, 7-338, 8-402, 9-418

BOWLING: Millns 20-1-115-1, Parsons 17-5-55-0, Wells 13-1-42-1, Simmons 22.3-4-62-5, Brimson 30-6-98-1, Pierson 15-1-44-1

Bonus points: Glamorgan 6, Leicestershire 8

Umpires: A A Jones and R A White

Hampshire v Gloucestershire

SOUTHAMPTON (third day of four): Gloucestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 352 runs to beat Hampshire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings 186 (M Keech 55, C A Walsh 5 for 34)

Second Innings

*J P Stephenson c Williams b Lewis	0
J S Laney c Williams b Walsh	27
K D James c Ball b Davis	50
R A Smith c Davis b Walsh	77
W S Kendall lbw b Walsh	63
M Keech c Hancock b Alleyne	61
†A N Aymes b Alleyne	7
S D Udal not out	28
R J Maru c Williams b Alleyne	5
C A Connor c Williams b Alleyne	24
J N B Bovill run out	0
Extras (b 6, lb 6, nb 2)	14
Total	356

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-33, 3-145, 4-170, 5-285, 6-289, 7-292, 8-312, 9-354

BOWLING: Walsh 29.3-55-3, Lewis 17-3-52-1, Alleyne 22.2-5-86-4, Davis 27-8-79-1, Ball 16-1-72-0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 164 (D R Hewson 87, C A Connor 9 for 38)

Second Innings

D R Hewson not out	9
M G N Windows not out	15
Extras (lb 1, nb 2)	3
Total (no wkt)	27

BOWLING: Connor 5.2-7-0, Stephenson 5-1-9-0, Udal 3-0-9-0, Maru 2-1-1-0

Bonus points: Hampshire 4, Gloucestershire 4

Umpires: J C Balderstone and P Willey

Northamptonshire v Kent

NORTHAMPTON (third day of four): Kent (23pts) beat Northamptonshire (4) by ten wickets

KENT: First Innings 316 (S C Willis 78)

Second Innings

D P Fulton not out	6
M J Walker not out	11
Total (no wkt)	17

BOWLING: Snape 1.5-0-10-0; Punthorthy 1-0-7-0

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings 133 (A Fordham 53, M J McCague 5 for 21)

Second Innings

R R Montgomerie c Willis b Hooper	57
*A Fordham lbw b Wren	1
D J Sales c Ward b Wren	25
D J Capel c Ward b Wren	0
K M Curran b Hooper	49
T C Walton b Wren	15
A L Penberthy b Wren	3
J N Snape c Walker b Hooper	16
†D Ripley b McCague	0
C E L Ambrose c Fulton b Hooper	1
J P Taylor not out	0
Extras (lb 10, lb 9, nb 10)	29
Total	196

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-34, 3-34, 4-143, 5-155, 6-179, 7-180, 8-191, 9-193

BOWLING: McCague 15-2-44-1, Wren 16-3-49-5, Headley 14-2-37-0, Patel 13-4-26-0, Fleming 3-0-14-0; Hooper 6.2-2-7-4

Umpires: V A Holder and B J Meyer

Nottinghamshire v Middlesex

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four): Middlesex (24pts) beat Nottinghamshire (0) by an innings and seven runs

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 257 (U Afzaal 51, P C R Tufnell 4 for 41)

Second Innings

P R Pollard c Carr b Fay	2
R T Robinson c Carr b Johnson	11
A A Metcalfe lbw b Weekes	37
*P Johnson lbw b Johnson	0
U Afzaal b Tufnell	39
C L Cairns c Carr b Tufnell	37
K P Evans b Weekes	0
†W M Noon c Brown b Johnson	21
C W Mike c Brown b Johnson	0
M N Bowen c Brown b Johnson	2
J A Afford not out	1
Extras (b 11, lb 7)	18
Total	163

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-15, 3-15, 4-86, 5-106, 6-106, 7-156, 8-160, 9-162

BOWLING: Fraser 12-3-18-0, Fay 12-3-29-1, Johnson 19.5-6-29-5, Tufnell 33-13-45-2, Weekes 14-4-31-2

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

P N Weekes c and b Cairns	58
J C Pooley lbw b Cairns	21
*M R Ramprakash run out	71
J D Carr c and b Afford	49
O A Shah c Noon b Afzaal	53
†K R Brown c Noon b Cairns	70
K P Dutch b Afford	27
R L Johnson c and b Afford	15
R A Fay b Evans	14
A R C Fraser b Evans	9
P C R Tufnell not out	13
Extras (b 4, lb 6, w 1, nb 16)	27
Total (112.4 overs)	427

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-158, 3-164, 4-262, 5-278, 6-326, 7-357, 8-382, 9-402

BOWLING: Cairns 21.4-2-79-3, Mike 16-1-68-0, Evans 17-3-68-2, Bowen 16-0-60-0, Afford 30-1-87-3, Afzaal 12-0-55-1

Umpires: H D Bird and N T Plews

Somerset v Essex

TAUNTON (third day of four): Essex (24pts) beat Somerset (5) by an innings and 11 runs

ESSEX: First Innings 465 (G A Gooch 201, R C Irani 87, S G Law 63, A P van Troost 4 for 90)

SOMERSET: First Innings 246 (P D Bowler 88, P M Such 6 for 63)

Second Innings

M N Lathwell c Gooch b Grayson	15
M E Trescothick c Prichard b Such	9
*P D Bowler c Peters b Such	16
R J Harden b Grayson	18
K A Parsons b Grayson	5
S Lee c Law b Such	36
†R J Turner not out	44
G D Rose run out	46
J I D Kerr b Such	0
J D Batty c Peters b Such	10
A P van Troost b Such	0
Extras (b 5, lb 3, w 1)	9
Total	208

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-24, 3-58, 4-58, 5-69, 6-105, 7-186, 8-188, 9-208

BOWLING: Irani 5-1-19-0, Such 42.3-11-72-6, Grayson 30-12-56-3, Law 12.2-3-39-0, Irani 4-0-14-0

Umpires: T E Jesty and G I Burgess

Sussex v Derbyshire

HOVE (third day of four): Sussex, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, need 185 runs to beat Derbyshire

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 320 (P A Barnett 55, T J G O'Gorman 54)

Second Innings

K J Barnett lbw b Giddins	17
A S Rollins not out	78
C J Adams c Moores b Drakes	1
*D M Jones c Athey b Law	30
T J G O'Gorman c Salisbury b Drakes	22
†K M Krikken c Moores b Salisbury	1
P A J DeFreitas b Drakes	7
M J Vandrau lbw b Drakes	0
C M Wells b Giddins	13
K J Dean c Moores b Drakes	1
D E Malcolm b Kirtley	21
Extras (b 4, lb 6, w 3, nb 16)	29
Total	220

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-33, 2-35, 3-78, 4-119, 5-122, 6-129, 7-133, 8-164, 9-165

BOWLING: Drakes 21.5-4-75-5, Kirtley 7.5-0-33-1, Giddins 17-3-68-2, Law 5-0-29-1, Salisbury 11.2-3-33-1

SUSSEX: First Innings

C W J Athey c Jones b Malcolm	6
K Greenfield c Rollins b Malcolm	12
*A P Wells c Adams b DeFreitas	35
M P Speight not out	123
R J Kirtley b Malcolm	0
E S H Giddins b Malcolm	1
K Newell c Rollins b Wells	30
D R Law lbw b Wells	8
†P Moores b Malcolm	8
I D K Salisbury lbw b Dean	20
V C Drakes c Adams b DeFreitas	0
Extras (lb 17, nb 6)	23
Total (84 overs)	265

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-21, 3-85, 4-86, 5-88, 6-177, 7-191, 8-212, 9-264

BOWLING: Malcolm 21-2-119-5, DeFreitas 18-10-87-2, Dean 8-2-22-1, Wells 17-7-20-2

Second Innings

C W J Athey lbw b Vandrau	19
K Greenfield c Jones b Malcolm	51
I D K Salisbury not out	9
*A P Wells not out	2
Extras (lb 4, nb 6)	10
Total (2 wkts)	91

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-75, 2-81

BOWLING: Malcolm 10-4-21-1, DeFreitas 7-1-29-0, Dean 7-2-31-0, Vandrau 5-1-6-1

Bonus points: Sussex 6, Derbyshire 7

Umpires: B Dudleston and R Palmer

Warwickshire v Durham

EDGBASTON (third day of four): Durham, with eight second-innings wickets in hand need 389 runs to beat Warwickshire

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 306 (D P Ostler 86, N M K Smith 64, D M Cox 5 for 97)

Second Innings

A J Moles b Cox	74
M J Powell b Brown	32
W G Khan st Lugsdwood b Cox	130
D P Ostler b Cox	6
T L Penney c Lugsdwood b Wood	2
S M Pollock run out	30
D A Brown b Killeen	51
†M Burns st Lugsdwood b Cox	6
N M K Smith b Cox	0
A F Giles not out	6
Extras (lb 10, nb 14)	24
Total (9 wkts dec)	381

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-81, 2-133, 3-157, 4-188, 5-263, 6-327, 7-345, 8-345, 9-361

BOWLING: Brown 18-0-70-1, Wood 15-5-64-1, Cox 44-11-139-5, Weston 1-1-0-0, Killeen 14.5-2-78-1

DURHAM: First Innings 255 (G L Campbell 64, P Bainbridge 54, N M K Smith 5 for 76)

Second Innings

S L Campbell lbw b Munton	15
S Hutton not out	5
J A Daley c Ostler b Giles	2
P Bainbridge not out	0
Extras (nb 2)	2
Total (2 wkts)	24

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-24

BOWLING: Pollock 3-1-11-0, Munton 3-1-12-1, Giles 1.0-1-1, Smith 1-1-0-0

Bonus points: Warwickshire 7, Durham 6

Umpires: J D Bond and G Sharp

FOOTBALL: SHEARER AND NEWCASTLE RECEIVE RUDE WAKE-UP CALL FROM RUTHLESS DOUBLE-WINNERS

Shortage of charity as Cantona calls tune

SIMON BARNES

At the Charity Shield

FOOTBALL, being a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal, traditionally lacks charity. It is a game in which hardness is dominant: hardness in physical confrontation, hardness of purpose, hardness in execution. That is why, when the season opens as ever with a curtain-raiser called the Charity Shield, writers and headline makers turn on the word "charity" with such ironical delight.

Charity these days means money. Originally, it meant a disinterested love. What does charity mean in football? Are we talking about money? Or about disinterested love?

Alan Shearer, the most expensive footballer on the planet, stepped out for his first big occasion with his new club, Newcastle United, as they took on Manchester United in the Charity Shield yesterday, each club seeking to prove a point before the true hardness of League competiton begins for real next weekend.

Shearer cost £15 million. And, after his series of excellent performances for England in the European championship, it seems that the nation took this monstrous sum of money in its stride.

No one, it seems, has seriously asked how *anyone* can be worth £15 million. But Newcastle, bankrolled by the love and money of Sir John Hall, and managed by the forever up-and-at-'em Kevin Keegan have taken yet another wild step into the footballing unknown.

It is, in fact, the third centre forward they have bought together, the others being Les Ferdinand, asked to surrender his treasured No 9 shirt, and Faustino Asprilla, the bewildering or beguiling Colombian, who was relegated to the substitutes' bench.

Now this is an awful lot of centre forwards and it might strike a normal observer of footballing matters that, if the crucial result of your previous season was a 4-3 defeat (by Liverpool, if you remember), then bolstering up the attack is not the most obvious priority.

Newcastle led all the way through last season, but fell away in the final furlong. That was when Manchester United ground out a series of 1-0 victories, most of them followed by a line in smaller print that read "Cantona 76min". Not making the small print, but equally important, was a string of saves, catches and interventions from the masterly Denmark goalkeeper, Peter Schemichel.

So what did Keegan do? Same goalie, same defence, and 15 million quid's worth of striking talent. So we lost the crucial match 4-3; that doesn't mean we should have won it 3-2, does it? No, we should have won it 5-4, right? Right!

Keegan, president of the campaign for real scorelines, has chosen glory beyond sense, or, at least, beyond logic. Not for him the football of fear; he is not a manager who lives his life in perpetual terror of the vote of confidence, not a manager who never dares to buy fitted carpets.

Rich enough from his playing days, he is part of the new breed of managers who can afford to take fotball on their own terms — rather than that of any chairman. And, Keegan being Keegan, the terms he has chosen are all to do with glory. "Doing things in style, not waiting for the other lot to die of boredom," as Danny Blanchflower remarked.

Some chairmen might lose patience with this, but clearly not Sir John. He, too, is rich enough, grand-spirited enough, to prefer glory to the sordid accountancy of the won/lost column. And, if this is not disinterested love, I don't know what is.

If ever there was a day to make the point of style over accountancy, this was it. *Le style c'est l'homme*, and the homme, as ever, was a certain Frenchman with a turned-up collar. Name: Eric Cantona. Price: one fifteenth of Shearer's. Value: incalculable. The heart and soul of the club.

He scored the first goal when the Newcastle defence gave him yards of space — if only they had asked me, I would have *told* them he was quite good — and made the second with a back-heel insolent even by his own elevated standards.

Oh, and he should have been sent off for flinging Albert to the ground; but then no one ever claimed that the heart and soul of Manchester United were entirely made up of disinterested love. Or of the lust for mere glory, for that matter.

As for Shearer, if he had been paid a million quid a touch for yesterday's show, we would get a fair bit of change from his price. What style Newcastle had came from Asprilla, a substitute. Heis even more skilful than Cantona and with a still more elusive and turbulent nature. Could he do for Newcastle what Cantona did and does for Manchester United? Perhaps that will remain one of football's eternal unanswerables.

Well, one pre-season match is not a championship campaign. Perhaps, for Shearer and Newcastle, this is the wake-up call. Yesterday was simply dreadful. I am reminded of the returning prodigal in Monty Python: "There's more to life and truth and beauty, father. There's dirt, and grime, and *work*."

Giggs helps Butt to celebrate his goal in the Charity Shield victory for Manchester United at Wembley yesterday

Sharpe seeks his England place at Leeds

BY PETER BALL AND RUSSELL KEMPSON

HOWARD WILKINSON, the Leeds United manager, has had a frustrating summer in the transfer market, but his efforts received some reward yesterday. Manchester United have accepted his £4 million offer for their England international winger, Lee Sharpe. After meeting Wilkinson at the weekend, and having the first part of his medical yesterday, Sharpe is expected to finalise the signing this afternoon.

The transfer takes Wilkinson's spending to around £8 million so far since Leeds's new owners presented him with a reported £12 million to spend on new players, with Lee Bowyer, Nigel Martyn and now Sharpe arriving at Elland Road. Ian Rush also joined on a free transfer.

Since the departure of Gary Speed to Everton, someone to play wide on the left was a priority, and Sharpe undoubtedly fits the bill. His past three seasons have been frustrating, littered with injury and inconsistency, but, if he can keep fit and respond to a new challenge, he is young enough to recapture the pace and ability to cross on the run that brought him eight England caps under Graham Taylor.

Sharpe joined Manchester United as a 16-year-old from Torquay for £185,000 and made an immediate impression. But, with the spate of recent signings at Old Trafford, his departure does not come as a surprise. He was linked with Liverpool earlier in the summer.

"I was watching Euro 96 when I realised I needed first-team football to get back my place in the England team," Sharpe said. "I don't think I regret leaving United but, after eight years at Old Trafford, it is never easy. I am looking forward to my days at Leeds."

Terry Venables, the former England coach, is considering an offer to join Portsmouth, the Nationwide League first division club, as director of football. Venables, who guided England to the semi-finals of Euro 96 in June, will hold further discussions with Martin Gregory, the Portsmouth managing director, to finalise the terms of the job this week.

"Portsmouth is a club that has had a lot of support and it could be turned into a big club again," Venables said. "I have had more substantial offers from abroad but I want to stay in this country. I'm now free again and I would like to put my time to good use."

Venables has been linked with FC Porto, Napoli and the Turkey national team since he relinquished his role with England, with rundown Fratton Park appearing an unlikely stage on which to reappear. The club has debts of £2.8 million, is losing £54,000 a week and narrowly avoided relegation to the second division last season.

Yet Venables has always had close links with the Gregory family — Martin's father, Jim, appointed him as manager of Queens Park Rangers in 1980 — and he was invited to watch Portsmouth's pre-season match against Bristol City on Saturday, which they won 1-0.

"Things are looking quite positive and, after I speak to Martin to sort out a few matters, I'm hoping it will go ahead," Venables said. "I just think the club is lacking direction. They have potentially good players and coaching staff and, with a little bit of help, they could do really well." Terry Fenwick, the Portsmouth manager, is likely to be retained, with Venables adopting an advisory role.

Don Howe, who assisted Venables throughout Euro 96 and has been involved with England for almost 20 years,

Sharpe: new challenge

may be relieved of his coaching duties for the 1998 World Cup qualifying campaign, which begins in Moldavia on September 1. It was reported yesterday that Glenn Hoddle, the new England coach, will be asking Howe, 60, to concentrate on his job as interim technical director of the Football Association.

Howe was coaching at Chelsea three years ago when Hoddle became manager, but left swiftly after being offered only a scouting job. Hoddle has also reshaped his backroom staff since succeeding Venables, appointing John Gorman, his No 2 at Swindon Town, as his assistant.

Stuart Pearce, the Nottingham Forest captain, has reconsidered his decision to retire from international football, which he announced after England had been beaten by Germany in the European championship. Having since spoken with Hoddle, he has made himself available for the game against Moldavia.

Disappointing Rangers sound alarm for honest Wilkins

Brian Glanville watches Wimbledon stroll past a team short of new ideas

Will Queens Park Rangers, so sadly relegated last season, bounce straight back up to the FA Carling Premiership? On Saturday's showing, it is debatable. Wimbledon, in the sunshine of Shepherds Bush, strolled past them 1-0 in a pre-season fixture and, afterwards, Ray Wilkins, the Rangers player-manager, did not mince his words.

Small, quick, bright, ironic and honest, Wilkins is a rare bird among managers, let alone player-managers. "We were inept," he said.

So, alas, they were. With typical generosity, Wilkins conceded that Wimbledon were "super" and that they had passed the ball well.

A less charitable assessment was that they were allowed to do the kind of things for which Wimbledon are not generally noted courtesy of a Rangers team that was pathetic in defence.

Wilkins tactfully said that he did not want to talk about "certain areas of the team" but he doubtless had plenty to say in the dressing-room to the defenders who left such enormous gaps and stood back early on to allow Wimbledon the winning goal. Robbie Earle was left quite alone to head in a Vinny Jones free kick from the left. They also serve who only stand and wait.

"Thank God it was a pre-season game," Wilkins said. The alarming thing was that most of this Rangers team was precisely that which was relegated last season, despite a number of impressive victories against the likes of Everton and West Ham United. Wimbledon should have had several more goals, and would have done had it not been for the athletic bulk of Jürgen Sommer, Rangers's American goalkeeper.

Wilkins played in midfield for most of the game and, to the neutral eye, looked no worse than anybody else in a floundering side.

"Nice of you to say so," he told a complimentary reporter. "I thought I was abysmal."

Did he take himself off, he was asked.

"No, Frank Sibley, the assistant manager, took me off," he replied. "After today, I'll have to think about it. I have done a lot of hard work in pre-season and played a lot of games, and that was my worst performance. I'll sit there and take stock."

Wilkins is 39, Mark Hateley, who played with him at Glasgow Rangers, is 34. There was some surprise when Wilkins brought him down from Scotland last season. Once so mighty in the air, — how well I remember the soaring header that he scored in a derby game at San Siro against Inter — Hateley now seems scarcely more than a point of reference.

In one home game last season he missed a header from a few yards. Wilkins, ever understanding, explained that the ball had not come across as fast as might be expected. It sounded a little like the wrong kind of snow or leaves on the railway line.

On Saturday, Hateley did have a diving header of sorts in the second half, which went past a post. The crowd, such as it was, jeered him, as they had been doing for much of the game. "It's unfortunate but Mark's a professional," Wilkins said. One, alas, who has seen far better days.

When Steve Slade, the 20-year-old centre forward bought from Tottenham Hotspur, came on, together with a lofty Daniele Dichio, there was much more movement up front, yet Slade showed an excessive aggression not evident at Tottenham. A violent clash with Ben Thatcher, the new Wimbledon left back, could have got both of them sent off, rather than substituted.

Emollient again, Wilkins explained that, having turned out in the past couple of matches, and not being in the starting XI on Saturday, Slade wanted to show "he was up to it". "I did not think it was only one way," he added.

It wasn't. Thatcher's retaliation, after he had played a model game and even raised dreams of England, was foolishly impulsive. That way expulsions lie.

Rangers have a new chairman now. No more choruses of "We want Thompson out, we want Thompson out".

Richard Thompson, now at Leeds United, will no longer have to suffer the abuse of Rangers supporters as he disappears down the steps from the directors' box. To be fair, they had once abused even Jim Gregory, the chairman who made the club, with those west London choruses of "Resign Gregory, resign!"

Chris Wright, the new chairman and Rangers follower for years, was on holiday abroad.

Diplomatic to a fault, Wilkins said: "It is difficult when a new chairman takes over. The initial outlay is an immense amount of money." In other words, he cannot know what he will have to spend and does know he did not spend it too well last season on Hateley, Ned Zelic, the Australian now with Auxerre, and Simon Osborn, who was sold to Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Will Trevor Sinclair have to go? Wilkins said that the only offer he has had was from Rangers's own former manager, Gerry Francis, now at Tottenham, for £3.5 million.

First-division football, Wilkins admits, will be "more robust, definitely. But I like to think we have chaps more than capable of looking after themselves."

To rub salt in to Saturday's wounds, Les Ferdinand, so recent a Rangers hero, turned up with other Newcastle United players to watch the first half. He was applauded and, for all the pace and promise of Kevin Gallen, how badly he is being missed!

Wilkins: typically generous

Barmby's start is delayed by injury

NICK BARMBY, the England forward, is expected to miss the start of the FA Carling Premiership season after being injured in an uncompromising pre-season match against Internazionale yesterday.

More than 20,000 supporters, at the Riverside Stadium for a testimonial match for Willie Maddren, saw Barmby sustain a calf injury after six minutes of the match, which finished 0-0.

Gianluca Vialli said that he is 40-50 per cent fit after making his home debut for Chelsea in Steve Clarke's benefit game against PSV Eindhoven, who won 3-2. However, the Italian forward added: "At Southampton next week I hope to be 100 per cent fit and you will see a different Chelsea."

The Southampton manager, Graeme Souness, has pulled out of a move for Uwe Rösler after being told by Alan Ball, the Manchester City manager, that he would have to pay £3.5 million for the German forward. Souness had hoped to sign Rösler for £2 million.

From next Monday *The Times* will publish a combined half-time and full-time grid which will include the pools value of the half-time scores. Littlewoods is running a new competition in which £250,000 can be won if punters obtain the maximum number of points available by correctly predicting half-times. The other significant change is the number of coupon matches which has been reduced from 58 to 49.

Celtic show early signs of failing to last distance

KEVIN McCARRA

Scottish commentary

It had been feared that the first afternoon of the new Bell's Scottish League premier division season would have about as much charm as the May Day parade in the former USSR when rocket launchers, tanks and other ingenious instruments of death trundled past the podium. On Saturday, the Old Firm were supposed to mount their own show of strength.

Instead, to the relief of those who like a little spontaneity with their sport, the two clubs malfunctioned. Rangers, with a 1-0 victory over Raith Rovers, suffered no harm, but the result did prove that they can be prevented from inflicting a routine rout, even when facing humble opposition on their own ground. Celtic came far closer to complete breakdown.

At Pittodrie, only an equaliser by Andreas Thom in the closing seconds allowed them to salvage a 2-2 draw with Aberdeen from a match in which they had led. It was one of those occasions where affluence seems only to buy a larger set of problems.

On his competitive debut, Alan Stubbs, the club's record signing at £3.5 million, was sent off. Having sauntered impressively through his duties, the central defender, with Celtic 1-0 ahead, sleepily failed to make an interception, so allowing Duncan Shearer, who came on as a substitute, to sneak in behind him.

Stubbs then had to attempt a tackle from behind and, seeming to catch man as well as ball, conceded a penalty in the 73rd minute. Mr Dallas, the referee, showed him the red card and Dean Windass scored from the spot. Tommy Burns, the Celtic manager, detected injustice, believing that Stubbs's challenge was cleanly executed, but he also recognised the lapse in concentration by the centre-half that began the whole episode.

The mental stamina of the entire Celtic team, however, was brought into question by the result. Having been reduced to ten men, the disorientation in defence when Shearer scored Aberdeen's second goal ten minutes from the end was entirely natural, but a less pardonable inattentiveness did the real damage to Celtic.

Roy Aitken, the Aberdeen manager, claimed that the visitors had "shaded" the first-half. Shade? This was an eclipse, with Aberdeen fumbling in the dark and rarely coming across the ball. At that stage, Celtic played with great assurance and each player's gifts seemed to supplement another's talents.

So, Pierre van Hooijdonk's head-flicks encouraged Jorge Cadete to make his darting intrusions behind the defence. There was a balance in midfield too, with Thom and O'Donnell providing thrust on the flanks, while Peter Grant held firm in the centre of the pitch.

The play was beguiling and the chances abundant, but Celtic carelessly missed them, as if convinced that victory was unavoidable in a game they were controlling. Only van Hooijdonk was to score in the first-half, curling a 30-yard free kick into the top corner of the net.

Aitken rightly praised his team for their comeback, but doggedness should never have been allowed to reap such rewards. As, after the break, Aberdeen at last secured access to the other half of the pitch, the first few symptoms of queasiness were apparent in a Celtic side that suddenly realised how vulnerable they still were.

Aberdeen could have had a goal as early as the 54th minute, when Gordon Marshall fumbled a cross and only van Hooijdonk's block kept the shot by Windass out of the net. Such poorly-disguised agitation nourished the hope that strengthened Aberdeen.

Just as scientists may deduce life on Mars from a few marks on a piece of rock; so there are pundits who will try to determine the whole outcome of the championship from the first afternoon's action. Football, of course, is not amenable to such methods, but Celtic will realise that Saturday's leniency needs to be expunged from the team's personality if they are to win the premier division.

A draw at Pittodrie would often be regarded as gratifying, but at present Aberdeen, for whom Tzanko Tzvetanov, the Bulgarian, made a pleasing debut in midfield, are caught up in the process of reconstruction. When faced with such vulnerability, a Celtic team with aspirations towards the title ought to be vindictive.

FOR THE RECORD

AUSTRALIAN RULES

MELBOURNE: Australian League Sydney 20 10 (130) Richmond 12 10 (82); North Melbourne 8.11 (59) Brisbane 11.11 (77). Melbourne 20 9 (129) Carlton 17 8 (110); Essendon 21.17 (143) Adelaide 16.11 (107); Geelong 18 19 (127) West Coast 12.10 (82). Fitzroy 5. 5 (35) St Kilda 13 10 (88). Hawthorn 20.12 (132) Footscray 10 5 (65); Fremantle 15.16 (106) Collingwood 11 16 (82).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney	19	14	1	4	1913	1538	58
N Melbourne	19	14	0	5	2213	1694	56
Brisbane	19	13	1	5	1865	1461	54
West Coast	19	13	0	6	1873	1527	52
Carlton	19	13	0	6	1845	1651	52
Geelong	19	12	1	6	2112	1712	50
Essendon	19	11	1	7	1953	1801	46
Hawthorn	19	9	1	9	1662	1685	38
Richmond	19	9	0	10	1854	1700	36
St Kilda	19	9	0	10	1789	1783	36
Adelaide	19	8	0	11	1992	1954	32
Collingwood	19	7	0	12	1886	1918	28
Fremantle	19	6	0	13	1532	1749	24
Melbourne	19	6	0	13	1472	2139	24
Footscray	19	4	1	14	1417	1907	18
Fitzroy	19	1	0	18	1245	2404	4

BOWLS

LEAMINGTON SPA: Women's World championships: Singles: Section one: M Johnston (Ire) bt J Joubert (Nam) 25-8, N Ismail (Malaysia) bt R Banares (US) 25-1, J Lindores (Scot) bt C Howard-Williams (Zim) 25-11; W Line (Eng) bt J Howat (NZ) 25-16, B Anderson (Bots) bt D Panieni (Cook Isl); M Like (Zam) bt M Swerdlow (Isr) 25-14; L Tikoisuva (Fiji) bt M Taylor (Holl) 25-17; M Vasquez (Arg) bt M Burns (Ken) 25-22. Section two: W Fong (Aus) bt R Jones (Wales) 25-20; G James (Swaz) bt L K Okuk (PNG) 25-17; J Peacock (SA) bt V Stead (Jersey) 25-9; C Pereira (Sing) bt N Yoshimoto (Japan) 25-9; C Anderson (Norfolk Isl) bt A Simon (Guernsey) 25-12, A Nivala (Can) bt M Porter (W Samoa) 25-9. Fours: First round: Section one: Scotland (M Letham, J Forrest, D Forsyth, S Gourlay) bt Zambia 28-15; Singapore bt Kenya 22-15; Israel bt Malaysia 23-22; South Africa bt England (N Shaw, J Baker, G Fitzgerald, M Price) 30-10; Swaziland bt Cook Islands 18-16, Hong Kong bt Ireland (P Mackle, C O'Gorman, H Taylor, P Nolan) 22-20, Holland bt USA 17-12. Section two: New Zealand bt Guernsey (J Simon, J Martel, J Nicolle, S Paul) 17-12; Norfolk Island bt India 31-10; Australia bt Canada 33-11, Papua New Guinea bt Wales (A Sutherland, A Denton, J Wasson, B Morgan) 24-18, Japan bt Argentina 22-16; Jersey (S Noel, K Horman, J Jones, S Syvret) bt Namibia 26-14; Spain bt Western Samoa 29-18. Pairs: Final; Ireland (P Nolan and M Johnston) bt Jersey (J Jones and S Syvret) 21-19. Third place play-off: Fiji bt South Africa 28-17. Fifth and sixth place: Scotland (J Forrest and J Lindores) bt Papua New Guinea 24-17. Seventh and eigth: England (G Fitzgerald and N Shaw) bt Zimbabwe 31-6. Ninth and tenth: Wales (A Dainton and R Jones) bt Australia 19-16. 11th and 12th: Norfolk Island bt Canada 21-13. 13th and 14th: Guernsey (J and A Simon) bt Cook Island 28-11. 15th and 16th: Israel bt United States 25-16. 17th and 18th: New Zealand bt Namibia 27-17. 19th and 20th: Kenya bt Swaziland 16-17 (after extra end). 21st and 22nd: Zambia bt Botswana 26-21. 23rd and 24th: Malaysia bt Hong Kong 30-8. 25th and 26th: Spain bt Western Samoa 19-11. 27th and 28th: Singapore bt Argentina 30-21. 29th and 30th: India bt Holland 26-14. 31st: Japan. Triples: Final: South Africa bt Australia 19-12. Third place play-off: Wales (A Sutherland, J Wason and B Morgan) bt England (W Line, J Baker and M Price) 17-14. Fifth and sixth: Scotland (M Letham, B Forsyth and S Gorley) bt Botswana 20-12. Seventh and eigth: New Zealand bt Guernsey (J Martel, J Nicolle and S Paul) 26-9. Ninth and tenth: Namibia bt Jersey (S Noel, K Horman and V Stead) 17-13. 11th and 12th: Israel bt Swaziland 24-7. 13th and 14th: Zambia bt Hong Kong 19-16. 15th and 16th: Cook Island bt Ireland (P Mackle, H Taylor and C O'Gorman) 14-13. 17th and 18th: Papua New Guinea bt Canada 19-16. 19th and 20th: United States bt Norfolk Island 20-16. 21st and 22nd: Fiji bt Argentina 15-10. 23rd and 24th: Singapore bt Holland 16-14. 25th and 26th: Malaysia bt India 21-13. 27th and 28th: Western Samoa bt Kenya 26-5. 29th and 30th: Spain bt Japan 19-11.

BOURNEMOUTH: Open Tournament: Singles: Semi-finals: R Sampson bt I Jefferies 21-14; N Collett bt J Evans 21-16. Final: Sampson bt Collett 21-12. Pairs: Final: N Smith and M Jackson bt G Blake and B Hunt 17-15. Triples: Final: N Leigh, R Wall and J Webley bt D Alderton, B Miller and K Thatcher 21-6.

HOME COUNTIES LEAGUE: Kent 120 Berkshire 97, Sussex 112 Surrey 116.

EASTERN COUNTIES: Suffolk 119 Huntingdonshire 119.

MIDLANDS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Nottinghamshire 119 Northamptonshire 98.

INTER COUNTY: Buckinghamshire 106 Derbyshire 121, Hertfordshire 139 Wiltshire 114, Oxfordshire 117 Warwickshire 113.

BOXING

BANGKOK: World Boxing Council light-flyweight championship (12rnds) Saman Sorjaturong (Thai, holder) bt Shiro Jahiro (Japan) tko 9th. Vacant World Boxing Council bantamweight championship (12rnds): Sirimongkol Singmanasak (Thai) bt Jose Luis Bueno (Mex) ko 5th.

HAMBURG: World Boxing Organisation light-heavyweight championship (12rnds): Darius Michalczewski (Ger, holder) bt Graciano Rocchigiani (Ger) ko 7th.

CYCLING

TOUR OF PORTUGAL: Sixth stage (233.2km, Albergaria-a-Velha to Figueira Castelo Rodrigo): 1, H Redant (Bel) 5hr 35min 49sec; 2, P Silva (Por), 3, S Sarkauskas (Lit); 4, A Di Basco (It); 5, M Abreu (Por); 6, S Vieira (Por) all same time. Leading overall positions: 1, M Lafi (It) 22hr 56min 15sec; 2, Abreu at 40sec; 3, V Garnito (Por) 1min 41sec; 4, J Gomes (Por) 2:35, 5, C Freitas (Br) 2:43, 6, P Ferreira (Por) 2:44.

ROAD RACES: Merseyside Ladies CA (Reynolds 531 women's national series, Ormskirk, 48m): 1, A Plant (Swaledale CC) 2:06 47; 2, S Boyden (VC La Motta) at 40sec; 3, M Johnson (Oundle Velo) same time. Final overall positions: 1, A Hunter (New Brighton CC) 43 pts; 2, S Boyden 42, eq 3, M Purvis (North Wirral Velo) and M Lawrence (Team Ambrosia) 39. Peugeot Grand Prix (Rathkenny, Co Antrim, 67m): 1, T Evans (Banbridge CC) 2 10·24, 2, I Chivers (Cyprus CC); 3, M Lyttle (Dungannon Wheelers) all same time.

TIME-TRIALS: Westerley RC (Didcot, Oxfordshire, 100m): 1, A Wilkinson (Port Sunlight Wheelers) 3hr 27min 39sec (British record); 2, C Brooks (VC Camelot) 3 38:52; 3, R Homer (Fareham Wheelers) 3:39·19. Team: Hounslow and District Wheelers 11:19:34. Yorkshire CF (Selby, 100m): 1, K Dawson (Optimum Performance RT) 3 32:16; 2, T Horton (Halifax RC) 3:45:55; 3, P Evans (VC Deal) 3.48.11. Team: Halifax RC 12:00:34. RTTC circuit time trial series (fifth round Bassenthwaite, Cumbria, 33m): 1, R Prebble (Wembley RC) 1:08:28 (course record); 2, P Manning (North Wirral Velo) 1:07:27, 3, J Clay (Team Orange-Perrier) 1 07 48. Rosshire RCC (Inverness, 50m): 1, R Davison (Ross-shire RCC) 1 57 45; 2, G Bruce (Cromarty Firth CC) 2:01·04; 3, M Van der Vlies (Moray Firth CC) 2:03:22. Team: Cromarty Firth CC 6:22:20. Musselburgh RCC (Wallyford, Lothian, 50m), 1, N Beard (Edinburgh RC) 1:59:05; 2, P Tiggerdine (Rock Hard RT) 2:01:06; 3, S Smith (Bonnyrigg CC) 2:02·04. Barnstaple Imperial Wheelers (Devon, 50m): 1, K Rees (Plymouth Corinthian CC) 2:00:32; 2, M Porter (Weston Wheelers) 2:02:36; 3, J Ball (Penzance Wheelers) 2:02:52. Team: Barnstaple Imperial Wheelers 6·18·45. Leicester Forest CC (Syston, 25m): 1, G Platts (Coalville Wheelers) 51:25; 2, C Storar (Ashfield RC) 54:21, 3, A Long (Coalville Wheelers) 54.23. Team: Coalville Wheelers (fastest third rider) 56:25. A5 Rangers (Towcester, 25m): 1, S Howes (Team Energy) 53:21; 2, A Pettit (Mercia CC) 55.37, 3, D Brown (Nene Valley RT) 58:19. Team: Oxonian CC 3:00:06. Teesside CA (Crathorne, North Yorkshire, 25m): 1, S Gore-Brown (VC York) 53 46. 2, N Payton (Derwent Valley CC) 54·03. 3, C Hawxby (Bradford Olympic) 54·04. Team: Cleveland Wheelers 2:48:50. VC Deal (Kent, 25m): 1, K Andrewartha (Metropolitan Police CC) 54 44, 2, L Martin (San Fairy Ann CC) 55:27, 3, S Giles (Team Clean) 55:53. Team: San Fairy Ann CC 2:58 54. Alford Wheelers (Boston, Lincolnshire, 25m): 1, J Rickards (JE James RT) 55·17; 2, S Batsford (Mid-Devon CC) 56:52; 3, R Watkinson (Dinnington RC) 57 16. Team: Alford Wheelers 2:55 45. Alton CC (Bentley, Hampshire, 25m): 1, H Stemp (Clarence Wheelers) 55:24. 2, R Cooper (Twickenham CC) 55 32. 3, D Dent (Portsmouth North End CC) 55:35. Team: Farnborough and Camberley CC 2:55·56. Hemel Hempstead CC (Milton Keynes, 10m): 1, N Hutchings (Vectis RCC) 19 39; 2, M Bottrill (Coalville Wheelers) 19.48; 3, M Oakes (VC Nottingham) 20·12. Team: Coalville Wheelers 1 02:36. Bec CC (Horsham, 10m), 1, D Akam (Wembley RC) 20·07, 2, S Heather (Festival RC) 20·51, 3, H Stemp (Clarence Wheelers) 21·20. Team: Festival RC 1:08:56. Askern CC (Ranby, North Nottinghamshire, 10m): 1, P Jezewski (JE James RT) 20:34; 2, M Walsham (Gill Airways-Peugeot) 20:39; 3, C Peate (Morley CC) 21·01. Coventry CCA (Wolvey, 10m): 1, R Bradley (Venom CRT) 21:26, 2, A Tomkins (Ambion RT) 21·47; 3, A Long (Coalville Wheelers) 21·49. Team: Coventry Olympic 1·07:37. Weston Wheelers (Weston-super-Mare, 10m): 1, A Winterbottom (Wellington Wheelers) 21·41, 2, P Kinch (Global Racing) 22:09; 3, R Scott (Somer Valley CC) 22:11. League International (Byley, Cheshire, 10m): 1, S Hulme (Team Freetown-Pace) 21.45; 2, P Wittall (VC Halton) 22:17, eq 3, P Pearce (Team Stonefield) and P Hodgkinson (Crewe Clarion Wheelers) 22:53.

EQUESTRIANISM

IRELAND: Dublin Horse show: Kerrygold Puissance: 1, Roddy's Revenge (T Coyle, Ire); 2, Elton (M Whitaker, GB), 3 Councellor (J Doyle, Ire). Kerrygold Challenge: 1, Blue Bayu (P Charles, Ire) clear 75 57secs; 2, Furiosa (E Gundel, Ger) clear 75 65, 3, Friso (G Dominici, It) clear 76 96.

GLIDING

HUSBANDS BOSWORTH: National 15-metre championship: Final day (243km tri Didcot, Manton, 2 completions of 49. HC=Hors Concord) HC T Jeffery (LS8) 61 9kph, 457pts; 1, J Wills (LS6) 55.7, 453. 2, T Scott (LS8) 48 9, 450. 3, J Wilton (ASW20C) 237km, 422, equal 4, E Johnston (LS6) and T Murphy (LS7W) 228 3km, 396. 6, Lysakowski (Ventus 2) 220 7, 374, HC B Cooper (LS6) 220 6, 374. 7, M Jefferyes (DG600) 216 7, 363, 8, M Jordy (LS6) 216.5, 362; equal 9, G Spreckley (LS8) and S Redman (LS6) and G Dale (ASW24) and C Alds (LS4) 211 5, 348. Final overall positions: 1, Wills 5,116pts. 2, P Crabb (LS8) 4,851; 3, Scott 4,756; 4, M Wells (LS8) 4,687; 5, A Kay (Ventus 2) 4,547; 6, S Jones (Ventus 2) 4,518.

GOLF

UTSCHAU: Austrian Open: Leading final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 269: P McGinley 73, 66, 68, 62. 270: D Lynn 66, 68, 70, 66; J C Pinero (Sp) 65, 66, 68, 71. 272: A Hunter 67, 74, 67, 64, G Clark 66, 68, 70, 68. 273: P Golding 67, 69, 70, 67: P Nyman (Swe) 70, 66, 69, 68. 274: M Anglert (Swe) 71, 68, 64, 71. 275: D Chopra (Swe) 69, 69, 70, 67. R Muntz (Holl) 67, 69, 74, 65: A Barnett 69, 67, 70, 69, A Haglund 70, 71, 66, 68; D Higgins 66, 67, 69, 73. S Dodd 67, 67, 71, 70. 276: S Watson 64, 70, 70, 72; B May (US) 70, 68, 68, 70; P Haugsrud (Nor) 67, 68, 71, 70, M Scarpa (It) 65, 68, 71, 72. S Webster 66, 69, 71, 70. 277: T Gogele (Ger) 68, 67, 68, 73; A Sherborne 67, 70, 70, 70. 278: M Wills 69, 70, 70, 69, R Burns 68, 71, 69, 70. 279: M Lanner (Swe) 67, 69, 72, 71. M McGuire 70, 67, 69, 73; M Pitz (Fin) 71, 67, 74, 67: M Litton 69, 68, 68 74. G Chalmers (Aus) 69, 70, 67, 73; M Welch 71, 70, 69, 69, R Rafferty 72, 69, 69, 69, R Wessels (SA) 69, 72, 67, 71, B Marchbank 67, 71, 68, 73, J Lomas 68, 66, 74, 71. 280: S Grappasonni (It) 67, 70, 72, 71. R Sailer (Austria) 70, 70, 72, 68, L James 70, 66, 76, 68; F Cea (Sp) 70, 67, 75, 68, B Lane 69, 66, 71, 74.

CANTON, Massachusetts, LPGA Ping Welch's championship: Leading third-round scores (US unless stated): 206: K Webb (Aus) 65, 73, 68. 208: E Klein 71, 69, 68. 209: M Mallon 72, 68, 69: A Ritzman 70, 70, 69; L Neumann (Swe) 72, 67, 70; G Graham (Can) 69, 70, 70. 210: L Kane 70, 70, 70; D Ammaccapane 68, 71, 71. 211: B Whitehead 71, 70, 70. Other scores: 215: S Croce (It) 72, 74, 69. 216: J Lidback (Peru) 72, 73, 71. S Little (SA) 74, 69, 73. C H Koch (Swe) 72, 71, 73. 217: S Maynor (GB) 73, 74, 70. 220: B Burkowsky-Scherbak (Can) 73, 74, 74.

ADA, Michigan: First of America Classic: Leading second-round scores (US unless stated). 133: B Stroble 68, 65. 136: B Summerhays 67, 69. 137: J Powell 69, 68; D Stockton 68, 69. 138: H Toscano 74, 64. 139: B Murphy 73, 66. 140: F Conner 74, 66. W Morgan 70, 70. J Albus 69, 71. L Gilbert 70, 70, J Bland 68, 72. T Aaron 66, 74. 141: T Wargo 67, 74. 142: R Acton 72, 70: B Baird 72, 70; K Zarley 71, 71; [illegible] Zembriski 70, 72. Other scores 143: A Jacklin (GB) 75, 68, S Hobday (SA) 71, 72. 145: D Graham (Aus) 71, 74. 147: C Peete 71, 76. 148: J Jacobs (GB) 73, 75.

MOTOR RACING

OULTON PARK: Auto Trader RAC Touring Car championship (27 laps, 44 6 miles): Round 19: 1, A Menu (Switz, Renault Laguna) 27min 39.89sec. 2, F Biela (Ger, Audi A4) at 0 31sec. 3, D Leslie (GB, Honda Accord) 9.57, 4, W Hoy (GB, Renault Laguna) 13.75, 5, R Rydell (Swe, Volvo 850) 16.86, 6, J Winkelhock (Ger, BMW 320i) 18.45; 7, J Cleland (GB, Vauxhall Vectra) 19.67, 8, K Burt (GB, Volvo 850) 19.95, 9, R Ravaglia (It, BMW 320i) 19.97, 10, J Kaye (GB, Honda Accord) 37 33. Total Cup Privateers: R Kaye (GB, Vauxhall Cavalier) 46 88. Fastest lap: Biela 1 00 57 (98 66mph, record). Round 20: 1, Biela 27 46 14; 2, Leslie 1.11; 3, Menu 1.73, 4, Winkelhock 2 45, 5, Ravaglia 9 67, 6, J Thompson (GB, Vauxhall Vectra) 10.27, 7, Cleland 19.21, 8, Burt 20.29, 9, J Bintcliffe (GB, Audi A4) 20.94, 10 Kaye 26 99. Total Cup Privateers: Kaye 40 00. Fastest lap: Biela 1 00 94 (98.08mph). Championship positions: Drivers: 1, Biela 226pts, 2, Rydell 146, 3, Menu 143, 4, Winkelhock 131, 5, Ravaglia 125, 6, Bintcliffe 102, 7, Leslie 98; 8, Cleland 79, 9, Hoy 78, 10, Thompson 69. Manufacturers: 1, Audi 235pts; 2, BMW 207, 3, Volvo and Renault 188, 5, Vauxhall 137, 6 Honda 136, 7, Ford 63, 8, Peugeot 54. Total Cup Privateers: 1, L Brookes (GB, Toyota) 236, 2, R Kaye 230. Forthcoming rounds: (Thruxton) Aug 26.

REAL TENNIS

HOBART, Tasmania: Australian Open Championship: Men: Semi-finals: R Fahey (Aus) bt F Filippelli (Aus) 6-4 6-2 6-1. J Snow (GB) bt M Gooding (Aus) 6-2, 6-3, 4-6, 6-1. Final: Fahey bt Snow 6-1, 6-3, 6-2. Women: Semi-final: F Leeming (GB) bt F Toates (Aus) 6-2, 6-2.

RIFLE SHOOTING

VANCOUVER: British Columbia championships: Grand Aggregate: 1, N Ball (GB) 553 93pts, 2, M Dunia (US) 553 79; 3, C Weeden (GB) 552.85. Scottish Claymore Aggregate: 1, Ball 150.28pts, 2, J Alexander (Can) 150 24; 3, N Moxon (GB) 150 24. MacDonald Stewart Aggregate: 1, Weeden 200 32pts. 2, R Pilcam (Can) 200 27, 3, Alexander 200 23. Flintoff Memorial (600 yds): 1, Weeden 50 10pts; 2, P Patel (GB) 50 9, 3 C Dahlstrom (Can) 50.9. Vera Barclay Trophy (800 yds): 1, M Millar (GB) 50 9pts, 2, Patel 50 9, 3, R Culbertson (USA) 50 9, 4, T Newbold (GB) 50 9. Past President's Match (800 yds): 1, J Underwood (GB) 75 13, 2, D Gass (GB) 75 13, 3, Ball 75 12.

SAILING

ISLE OF WIGHT: Skandia Life Cowes Week. CHS Class one (Coronation Bowl): 1, Silk 2 (J Wallen), 2, Bounder (C Little), 3, Hawk (N Bramwell). CHS Class two: 1, Playback (F Lawrence), 2, Mustang Sally (J McWilliam), 3, Pointe North (D Walter). CHS Class three: 1, Thrust (M Struth), 2, Circuiteer (M Paling), 3, Northern Child (P and D Collins). CHS Class four: 1, Owl (P Bruce), 2, Caroline (M Debrell), 3, Rawhyde 2 (I Gray). CHS Class five: 1, Addict (I Handley), 2, Lola (N Harley), 3, Five Star No 1 (Five Star Sailing). CHS Class six: 1, Shallot (M Moody), 2, Kandoo (C McNeon), 3, Vampire (D Moore). ISC Handicap: 1, Chartreuse (P Newell), 2, Debonair (D Guy), 3, Jazz (P Ogden). Sportboats: 1, J Crazy (N Harrington), 2, Bogo Pogo (D Knight), 3, Nickers (J Stelling). Melges 24: 1, Rapid Breathing (P Strzlecki), 2, Glenfiddich 1 (D Bedford), 3, Pink Lips (I Pinnell). Etchells: 1, Yes! (A Gosling), 2, Moonlight (R Wickens), 3, Warlord V (P Tolhurst). X99: 1, Exotist (H van Dalen), 2, Expression (R Engelbrecht), 3, Exile (P Morton). Sigma 33: 1, Sloop John B (J Bertie), 2, Krishi IV (N Andrews), 3, Excelle (F and A Perry). Daring: 1, Audax (P Romer-Lee), 2, Dido (M Gwinner), 3, Loup Garou VII (J Clark). Dragon: 1, Scarecrow (A Goodman), 2, Rackham (R Gray), 3, Quicksilver II (R Campbell). Sonata: 1, Sonic (M Jaffe), 2, Crisis (G Palin), 3, Pizzicato (Dr T and J White). J24: 1, Bijoux (G Morris), 2, Challenger (Army Sailing Assoc) (only two finished). Redwing: 1, Lady Laetitia (W Cleddl), 2, Skua (R Morrison), 3, Snowgoose II (K McAlpine). Sunbeam: 1, Danny (R Wickens); 2, Dainty (P Nicholson), 3, Mystery (V Williams). Swallow: 1, Avocet (J Houghton), 2, Boomerang (J Buckwell), 3, Goosander (M Upton). Contessa 32: 1, Trader Jo (J Gresham), 2, White Rabbit (P Ralls), 3, Roulette of Beaulieu (J Mathews). Squib: 1, Trinity (P Dixon), 2, Moonraker (P Tracey), 3, Lizwhiz (J Murch). Flying 15: 1, Mr Toad (R Ruding), 2, No Name (G Fulford), 3, Comfortably Numb (N and F Kidd). XOD: 1, Lizz Whizz (D Spencer-Phillips), 2, X-Ray (R Balme), 3, Vanity (W McNeill). Hunter 707: 1, Bogo Pogo (D Knight); 2, Knickers (J Stelling), 3, Double Plush (M Holdsworth). Mermaid: 1, Bluebell (S Lloyd), 2, Haliut (R Camm), 3, Miranda (B Few-Brown).

SCHOOLS SPORT

CRICKET: Lombard World challenge: Under-15: Group A (Lensbury): England 262 Zimbabwe 116, Canada 193 West Indies 194-3. Group B (Oundle School) Holland 127 South Africa 129-2; Australia 163 Sri Lanka 164-7.

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Coventry 73 Sheffield 20.

CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Linlithgow 53 Ryde 24.

TENNIS

MASON, Ohio: Men's ATP championship: Semi-finals: A Agassi (US) bt T Muster (Austria) 6-4, 6-1, M Chang (US) bt T Enqvist (Swe) 6-1, 2-6, 6-2.

SAN MARINO: Men's World series tournament Quarter-finals: M Charpentier (Arg) bt G Schaller (Austria) 6-4, 6-4; F Mantilla (Sp) bt S Dosedel (Cz) 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, J Sanchez (Sp) bt C Ruud (Nor) 6-1, 5-7, 6-4, A Costa (Sp) bt A Voinea (Rom) 3-6, 6-2, 6-3. Semi-finals: Costa bt Charpentier 6-4, 7-6; Mantilla bt Sanchez 7-5, 6-4.

MONTREAL: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt K Po (US) 6-0, 6-4, M Seles (US) bt Y Basuki (Indo) 6-0, 6-3.

MARIA LANKOWITZ, Austria: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: S Cecchini (It) bt S Talaja (Cro) 6-3, 6-2; B Paulus (Austria) bt S De Ville (Bel) 6-1, 7-5. Final: Paulus bt Cecchini 0-0 (Cecchini ret).

SOUTHSEA: LTA Satellite tournament: Finals: Men: Singles: M Lee (GB) bt A Hunt (NZ) 6-7, 6-1, 6-1. Doubles: Hunt and T Spinks (GB) bt J Delgado and A Foster (GB) 6-1, 6-3. Women: Singles: L Ahl (GB) bt C Watson (Aus) 6-3, 6-3. Doubles: Ahl and S-A Siddall (GB) bt L Latimer and L Woodroffe (GB) 6-2, 7-5.

WATER POLO

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Saturday: First division: Bristol 15 Polytechnic 13, Nova 18 Exeter 7, Lancaster 17 Coventry 5, Royton 10 Birkenhead 10, Cheltenham 13 Penguin 9. Second division: Sutton 14 Rotherham 11, Invicta 6 Paragon 12. Yesterday: First division: Cheltenham 9 Polytechnic 8, Lancaster 20 Birkenhead 8, Bristol 16 Penguin 7. Second division: Invicta 6 Rotherham 11, Sutton 24 Bradford 7.

FOOTBALL

FA Charity Shield

MAN UTD (2) 4 NEWCASTLE (0) 0
Cantona 25, Butt 30, Beckham 86, Keane 88 — 73,214

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division

ABERDEEN (0) 2 CELTIC (1) 2
Windass 74 (pen), Shearer 80 — Van Hooijdonk 24, Thom 90 — 18,500
Sent off: A Stubbs (Celtic) 74

DUNDEE UTD (1) 1 MOTHERWELL (0) 1
McSwegan 7 — Van Der Gaag 78 — 8,157

HIBERNIAN (1) 1 KILMARNOCK (2) 2
Weir 38 — Mitchell 30, Henry 26 — 9,175

RANGERS (1) 1 RAITH (0) 0
Steven 24 — 46,221

Scottish League Challenge Cup

First round

ALBION (0) 1 ST JOHNSTONE (0) 2
McKenzie 67 — Grant 58, O'Boyle 108 (pen) — 856
(aet; 1-1 after 90 minutes)

ALLOA (0) 3 CLYDE (3) 3
Irvine 53, 64, 81 — Matheson 19, 42, Knox 26 — 577
(aet, 3-3 after 90 minutes)

ARBROATH (0) 2 QUEEN OF STH (0) 3
Peters 64, Welsh 117 — Flannigan 67, 105, Mallan 100 (pen) — 360
(aet, 1-1 after 90 minutes)

BERWICK (0) 0 STRANRAER (2) 2
325 — Docherty 23 (pen), Sloan 32

BRECHIN (0) 0 STIRLING (0) 0
333 *(aet)*

CLYDEBANK (0) 0 EAST STIRLING (0) 0

COWDENBEATH (0) 0 FALKIRK (0) 2
845 — Hagen 92, McGraw 108 *(aet)*

FORFAR (0) 0 G MORTON (2) 4
747 — Lilley 30, 61, Rajamaki 43, Flannery 68
Sent off: R Mann (Forfar) 80

LIVINGSTON (0) 1 CALE THISTLE (1) 2
Young 71 — Thomson 10, Cherry 90 — 1,335

MONTROSE (1) 2 DUMBARTON (0) 0
Smith 17, Glass 50 — 282

PARTICK (0) 3 QUEEN'S PARK (0) 1
Stirling 53, Henderson 104, Mackrey 113 (pen) — Falconer 51 — 2,283
(aet; 1-1 after 90 minutes)

ROSS COUNTY (0) 0 AYR (1) 4
963 — English 35, Smith 49, 75, Jameson 74
Sent off, Matheson (Ross Co) 80

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Saturday: Blackpool 2 Darlington 0; Brighton 0 Luton 2, Carlisle 1 Bolton 0; Charlton 1 Tottenham Hotspur 3; Farnborough 2 Southampton 0; Guiseley 1 Halifax 2; Halesowen 0 Cardiff 0; Hitchin 0 Tottenham XI 4; Ilkeston 0 Birmingham 3; Kettering 1 Norwich 0; Kidderminster 0 Crewe 8; Macclesfield 1 Manchester United XI 0; Northampton 1 Peterborough 1, Northwich 1 Doncaster 1; Portsmth 1 Bristol City 0; Queens Park Rangers 0 Wimbledon 1; Scunthorpe 1 Huddersfield 2; Shrewsbury 1 Stoke 0; Walton and Hersham 1 Harrow 1. Wealdstone 0 Wimbledon XI 4; Wigan 1 Barnsley 1; Accrington Stanley 0 Bury 1; Dover 1 Gillingham 2, Bishop's Stortford 1 Leyton Orient XI 1; Inter Cable-Tel 0 Everton XI 2, Ipswich 1 Arsenal 1; Woking 1 Arsenal XI 4. Yesterday: West Ham 4 Colchester 1. Middlesbrough 0 Internazionale 0; Newcastle Town 0 Stoke 1.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: First round: Ards 3 Chimney Corner 1 (aet; 1-1 after 90 min); Ballinamallard 0 Portadown 3, Ballyclare 1 Armagh 0; Ballymoney 1 Newry 2; Coleraine 5 Limavady 1, Crusaders 1 Brantwood 0; Dungannon Swifts 1 Ballymena 0; Glenavon 4 Dundela 0; Institute 1 Carrick 2; Linfield 8 Tobermore 2. Loughgall 3 Cliftonville 2 (aet; 2-2 after 90 min). Omagh 10 Cookstown 0.

GERMAN CUP: First round: VfB Stuttgart 0 Fortuna Koln 0 (VfB Stuttgart win 4-1 on pens); Freiburg 2 Uerdingen 0. Arminia Bielefeld 3 Hamburg SV 1; Hansa Rostock 5 Schweinfurt 2; VFL Bochum 4 Ronlenden 2; St Pauli 4 Rot-Weiss Oberhausen 1; Bayern Munich 3 Borussia Berlin 0; Cologne 3 FV Donaueschingen 1; MSV Duisburg 3 Bayer Leverkusen 1, Karlsruhe SC 3 Bremerhaven 2; Borussia Mönchengladbach 2 Mannheim 0; Nurnberg 1 FSV Mainz 05 0. Greuther Furth 1 Kaiserslautern 0, Kickers Emden 1 Fortuna Dusseldorf 3; Greifswalder SC 0 SpVgg Unterhaching 3; FSV Wacker Nordhausen 1, TSV 1860 Munich 5; Borussia Neunkirchen 1 VfB Leipzig 1 (Neunkirchen win 5-4 on pens)

FRENCH LEAGUE: Nantes 1 Monaco 3; Bastia 2 Rennes 0; Nice 0 Auxerre 1, Lille 1 Metz 0; Bordeaux 1 Le Havre 0, Strasbourg 0 Paris St Germain 1; Caen 0 Lens 2, Nancy 1 Cannes 2; Guingamp 0 Montpellier 0

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Friday: Boston 9 Milwaukee 7 (first game): Boston 4 Milwaukee 1 (second game), Detroit 5 New York 3; Texas 6 Toronto 4; Chicago 4 Baltimore 3 (10 innings), Kansas City 5 California 3; Cleveland 10 Oakland 4; Minnesota 6 Seattle 5 Saturday: Detroit 13 New York 7; Oakland 5 Cleveland 1, Texas 12 Toronto 1: Baltimore 13 Chicago 4, Boston 3 Milwaukee 2; Kansas City 18 California 3, Minnesota 10 Seattle 4

	W	L	Pct	GB
East division				
New York	68	47	591	—
Baltimore	60	55	522	8
Boston	56	61	479	13
Toronto	53	64	453	16
Detroit	42	74	362	26½
Central division				
Cleveland	71	46	607	—
Chicago	64	53	.547	7
Minnesota	57	59	491	13½
Milwaukee	55	63	466	16½
Kansas City	55	63	466	16½
West division				
Texas	65	52	556	—
Seattle	60	55	522	4
Oakland	58	60	492	7½
California	52	64	448	12½

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Friday: Florida 2 New York 1 (10 innings); Cincinnati 9 Los Angeles 4; Chicago 11 Montreal 9; Houston 5 Philadelphia 1: San Diego 4 Pittsburgh 1, Colorado 6 Atlanta 4, San Francisco 8 St Louis 6 Saturday: Colorado 9 Atlanta 7 (in 10), Houston 3 Philadelphia 1; Los Angeles 7 Cincinnati 5, Florida 9 New York 6. San Diego 6 Pittsburgh 2: Chicago 3 Montreal 2, St Louis 7 San Francisco 1

	W	L	Pct	GB
East division				
Atlanta	70	45	.609	—
Montreal	63	52	548	7
New York	55	63	466	16½
Florida	54	63	462	17
Philadelphia	48	69	410	23
Central division				
Houston	63	54	538	—
St Louis	62	55	530	1
Cincinnati	58	56	500	4½
Chicago	57	58	496	5
Pittsburgh	51	66	436	12
West division				
San Diego	64	55	538	—
Colorado	61	55	526	1½
Los Angeles	60	56	517	2½
San Francisco	49	66	426	13

Monica Seles delivers a forehand return at the duMaurier Open tournament in Montreal. In the semi-final Seles, the defending champion, beat Yayuk Basuki, of Indonesia, 6-0, 6-3. Photograph: Ryan Remiorz.

CLUB CRICKET

APS TWO COUNTIES LEAGUE: Abberton 141, Dunmow 142-5, Halstead 247-7, Wivenhoe 220; Mildenhall 118, Maldon 119-1; Braintree 229-7, Sudbury 220-9, Witham 120, Clacton 236-2.

BERKSHIRE LEAGUE: Sonning 78, Farley Hill 82-7, Goring 144-7, Sandhurst 145-8, Wargrave 141-8, Frimley 144-3; West Ilsley 176, Yateley 160; Woodley 192, Pinkneys Green 68.

BOLTON LEAGUE: Astley Bridge 92, Horwich 93-3; Egerton 161-7 decl, Little Lever 99-7; Farnworth 184-8 decl, Bradshaw 128-5; Kearsley 180-4 decl, Eagley 156 Farnworth SC 145-9 decl, Tonge 146-9; Walkden 171, Greenmount 17-3, Westhoughton 148-4, Heaton 144.

BRYAN HERTFORDSHIRE LEAGUE: Letchworth 62, West Herts 63-1. Langleybury 141, Berkhamstead 140-8; Welwyn Garden City 130, Luton Town 131-0; Bishop'S Stortford 224-8, Hoddesdon 116-9, North Mymms 148-8, Watford Town 149-6, Cheshunt 263-2, Hitchin 159; Stevenage 125, Radlett 103, Hertford 216-7, Potters Bar 158-7, Sawbridgeworth 113. St Albans 114-4; Barnet 248-3 Hemel Hempstead 246-6.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Dewsbury Moorlands 166, Denby Dale 51-3 rain stopped play; Dodworth 158-5, Old Almondburians 160-8, Higham 182-9, Holmbridge 181-6 Upper Hopton 43, Thurstonland 46-0 Clayton West 178-7 Lepton 38-1 rain stopped play; Birchencliffe 145, Woodfield 53 Emley 81 Cragglestone 51

DRAKES HUDDERSFIELD LEAGUE: Broad Oak 258-4, Scholes 107-9; Elland 116-9, Marsden 150 rain stopped play; Hall Bower 99, Holmfirth 100-0, Lascelles Hall 148-9, Shepley 188-9 rain stopped play; Meltham 136-9, Kirkburton 101; Skelmanthorpe 199-6, Slaithwaite 163-7 rain stopped play; Thongsbridge 230-7, Kirkheaton 184-9, Dalton 130-4, Almondbury 132-4, Golcar 74, Halifax 155, Huddersfield and Lockwood 114, Paddock 130, Penistone 50, Honley 249-4; Primrose Hill 93, Armitage Bridge 94-1; Rastrick 136-7, Kexborough 198-8

DERBYSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY LEAGUE: Ilkeston 141, A and B 142-2; Langley Mill 222-7, West Hallam 102. Morton 128-8, Stainsby Hall 132-4, Ockbrook 305-2, Quarndon 150-5, Spondon 200-7, Sawley 192-7; Wirksworth 192-5, Darby 107-9

EVE SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE: Addiscombe 221-7, Avorians 168-8, Brook 214, Dorking 99; East Molesey 117, Epsom 115 Purley 182, Normandy 186-3, Beddington 224-5, Old Alleynians 95 Cranleigh 129, Old Emanuel 132-4, Old Ruttishians 224-6, Old Hamptonians 224-2, Old Whitgiftians 115 Send 116-2; Camberley 162 Streatham 125-8 Worcester Park 191, Warlingham 164-9.

KOOKABURRA SOUTH THAMES LEAGUE: Beckenham 262-3 Racs 139-7 Bexley 258-7 Orpington 162, Bickley 244-6 Old Colts 122 Midland 108 Cuaco 109-7 Dartford 239-3 Lloyds 182 Hayes 198-8 Hartley 173-8; Wells 218-2, Sidcup 196-4

LEES BREWERY LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: Denton Ct Law 263-8, Woodhouses 231-9; Denton West 172-1, Cheetham Hill 171-9; Longsight 221-7, Dukinfield 158-6, Prestwich 207-3, Irlam 114; Sale Moor 158, Glossop 164-2; Thornham 143-7, Roe Green 110-8 Denton 149, Woodbank 150-5.

MERSEYSIDE LEAGUE: Bromborough Pool 121-8, Prestatyn 17-7, Buckley 199-5, Runcorn 99-8; Caldy 97-4, Electric Supply 96, Cheshire Lines 98-2, Old Xaverians 132, Liverpool Nalgo 125, Mersey Park 200-7, Tranmere Victoria 76-5, Aigburth 15-6, Mossley Hill 66-7 St Asaph 87, Wirral 88-4, Wrexham 150, Port Sunlight 151-1

MIDDLESEX COUNTY LEAGUE: Uxbridge 205, Ealing 86, Enfield 206-6, Brentham 210-6, Nth Middlesex 148 Finchley 149-3; Stanmore 194-9, Hampstead 144-9; Southgate 159, Richmond 162-4, Shepherds Bush 188-9, Sth Hampstead 174-7, Brondesbury 206-9, Teddington 162-8, Winchmore Hill 270-6, Hornsey 172

MORRANT THAMES VALLEY LEAGUE: Slough 206-9, Basingstoke 205-8, Finchampstead 215-4, Boyne Hill 189-9, Reading 218-7 Beaconsfield 201-6; Wokingham 277-4, Chesham 206-6, Kidmore End 140, Eastcote 144-2

WILLIAM YOUNGER NORTH LANCASHIRE: Askam 144-9, Haverigg 129-9 Carlisle 124-5, Furness 91-8 Carnforth 123, Vickerstown 12-3 Workington 183-9, Dalton 100, Millom 156 Lindal 124-9; Ulverston 138-9, Barrow 114-6; Vickers SC 70, Penrith 89, Whitehaven 76, Cleator 80-4

NORWICH UNION NORFOLK ALLIANCE LEAGUE: Cromer 183-6, North Wanderers 132, Horsford 210-7, Vauxhall Mallards 212-4, Downham 42, Swardeston 46-4; North Barleycorns 131, O Buckenham 97.

NORTH STAFFS AND SOUTH CHESHIRE LEAGUE: Stone 219-6, Bignall End 157-5; Crewe 50, Ashcombe Park 52-5, Leek 190, Knypersley 162-7, Longton 195-4, Audley 127, Cheadle 149, Porthill Park 137-6, Stafford 175-2, Caverswall 101-5

NORTH WALES LEAGUE: Bangor 154-5, Connahs Quay 154-5; Hawarden Park 68, Pontblyddyn 69-3, Shotton 87, Llandudno 88-1 Llay 216-7, Bersham 183-7, Mochdre 86, Brymbo 87-2

VAUX NORTHERN LEAGUE: Chorley 106-6, Leyland 65-6, Fleetwood 178, Kendal 76-2, Leyland Dal 64, St Annes 65-4 Morecambe 173-6, Darwen 87-1.

WOOLWICH KENT LEAGUE: Bexley 194-6, Holmesdale 154, Bromley 210-9, Dartford 217-9, Dover 151-8, Beckenham 154-3, Folkestone 173-5, Blackheath 42, Gore Court 157, St Lawrence 161-6, Midland Bank 251-5, Gravesend 253-3 Sevenoaks Vine 224, The Mote 220-5

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE: Cleethorpes 116 Harrogate 120-1, Castleford 89, Hull 90-6 Doncaster 186, Rotherham 183, Sheffield Coll 206-5, Appleby Frod 204-6

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League

Yesterday

Oldham 14 London 22

Oldham Bears: Tries: Belle, Crompton, Davidson. Goal: Maloney. London Broncos: Tries: Krause, Mestrov, Offiah 2. Goals: Barwick 3. Att: 2,327

Saturday

Paris 12 St Helens 32

Paris Saint-Germain: Tries: Bird, Bomati. Goals: Smith 2. St Helens: Tries: Cunningham, Hunte, Perelini, Prescott, Sullivan 2. Goals: Goulding 4. Att: 4,050

Warrington 38 Castleford 24

Warrington: Tries: Cullen, Henare 2, Hulme, Mafi, Sculthorpe, Shelford. Goals: Knott 5. Castleford Tigers: Tries: Botica, Flynn, Goddard, Schick, T Smith. Goals: Botica 2. Att: 4,277.

Friday's late result

Wigan 68 Leeds 14

Wigan: Tries: Connolly 2, Cowie, Edwards 2, Murdock, Radlinski, Robinson 5, Tuigamala. Goals: Farrell 8. Leeds: Tries: Forshaw 2. Goals: Holroyd 3. Att: 7,810

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Helens	20	18	0	2	816	439	36
Wigan	20	17	1	2	790	309	35
Bradford	19	15	0	4	686	354	30
London	20	11	1	8	542	428	23
Warrington	20	11	0	9	513	475	22
Sheffield	19	9	0	10	530	600	18
Halifax	19	8	1	10	548	484	17
Oldham	20	8	1	11	415	614	17
Castleford	20	8	0	12	526	525	16
Leeds	20	5	0	15	463	653	10
Paris	20	3	1	16	366	746	7
Workington	19	2	1	16	279	847	5

First division

Salford 21 Keighley 4

Salford Reds: Tries: Forber, Rogers, Sini 2. Goals: Blakeley, Hampson. Dropped goal: Lee. Keighley Cougars: Try: Milner. Att: 5,317

Wakefield 30 Whitehaven 22

Wakefield: Tries: Clarkson, Davis 3, Grigg. Goals: Davis 5. Whitehaven: Tries: Doyle, Edwards, Lewthwaite, Quirk, Williams. Goal: Casey. Att: 1,304

Widnes 6 Rochdale 6

Widnes: Try: P Smith. Goal: D Myler. Rochdale: Try: Mackie. Goal: Pachniuk. Att: 1,625

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Salford	18	17	0	1	663	263	34
Keighley	18	12	2	4	454	307	26
Featherstn	18	11	2	5	519	335	24
Hull	17	12	0	5	485	347	24
Huddersfield	18	11	0	7	495	280	22
Widnes	18	9	1	8	385	358	19
Wakefield	18	8	1	9	409	431	17
Dewsbury	17	5	1	11	227	504	11
Whitehaven	18	4	1	13	282	478	9
Rochdale	19	2	2	15	330	672	6
Batley	17	1	2	14	190	564	4

Second division

Doncaster 10 Leigh 7

Doncaster Dragons: Try: Moore. Goals: Chappell 3. Leigh Centurions: Try: Purtill. Goal: Purtill. Dropped goal: Mason. Att: 767

Hunslet 14 South Wales 21

Hunslet Hawks: Tries: Southernwood, Wilson. Goals: Wilson 3. South Wales: Tries: Parrymen 2, Riley. Goals: Bebb 3. Dropped goals: Doherty 2, Halton. Att: 873

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull K R	19	18	0	1	894	256	36
Swinton	19	16	0	3	659	267	32
Hunslet	20	16	0	4	664	309	32
Carlisle	19	12	0	7	578	385	24
South Wales	20	12	0	8	506	464	24
Doncaster	20	11	0	9	444	508	22
Leigh	20	9	0	11	534	426	18
York	19	7	0	12	368	541	14
Bramley	19	5	0	14	311	688	10
Barrow	19	4	0	15	300	570	8
Chorley	19	4	0	15	297	685	8
Prescot	19	2	0	17	265	721	4

POINTSCORERS

	Tries	Goals	DG	Pts
B Goulding (St Helens)	5	134	3	291
M Fletcher (Hull K R)	4	132	0	280
S Blakeley (Salford)	10	96	0	232
W Richardson (Carlisle)	10	95	0	230
M Pearson (Featherstone)	16	75	0	214
S Wilson (Hunslet)	7	91	1	211
J Schuster (Halifax)	7	90	1	209
A Farrell (Wigan)	6	90	0	204
G Holroyd (Leeds)	12	74	4	200
G Pearce (Swinton)	2	93	0	194
D Purtill (Leigh)	8	77	0	186
F Botica (Castleford)	4	81	2	180
I Harris (Warrington)	7	74	2	178
S McNamara (Bradford)	2	84	1	177
C Tyrer (Widnes)	6	67	4	162
M Aston (Sheffield)	2	74	0	156
P Allanson (Barrow)	10	53	2	148
B Davis (Wakefield)	10	51	3	145
P Newlove (St Helens)	35	0	0	140
G Barwick (London)	12	39	2	128

(Not including yesterday's matches)

Australian premiership

Manly 18 Sydney Tigers 0
Sydney B 26 Gold Coast 16
Canberra 40 South Sydney 10
North Sydney 44 Penrith 10
Illawarra 21 Cronulla 14
Brisbane 36 W Suburbs 6
Sydney City 22 Western Reds 10
St George 35 Auckland 6
N Queensland 11 S Queensland 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manly	19	16	0	3	445	151	32
Sydney City	19	14	1	4	475	265	29
Brisbane	19	14	0	5	511	229	28
North Sydney	19	13	2	4	492	290	28
Cronulla	19	11	2	6	333	240	24
St George	19	11	1	7	375	312	23
Auckland	19	11	0	8	382	339	22
Canberra	19	10	1	8	446	356	21
W Suburbs	19	10	1	8	347	362	21
Newcastle	18	9	1	8	348	316	19
Parramatta	18	9	1	8	338	323	19
Sydney Tigers	19	9	0	10	267	407	18
Sydney B	19	8	0	11	288	322	16
Illawarra	19	7	0	12	339	414	14
Penrith	19	5	1	13	319	392	11
Gold Coast	19	5	1	13	329	419	11
Western Reds	19	5	1	13	247	370	11
South Sydney	19	5	1	13	282	520	11
N Queensland	19	5	0	14	238	543	10
S Queensland	19	4	0	15	186	417	8

RUGBY UNION

International match

South Africa 18 New Zealand 29

South Africa: Tries: Du Rand, Mulder. Con: Stransky. Pens: Stransky 2. New Zealand: Tries: Osborn, Dowd. Cons: Mehrtens 2. Pens: Mehrtens 5.

(in Cape Town)

Ranfurly Shield

Aukland 30 Bay of Plenty 29

Auckland: Tries: Kerr 2, Napia, Carrington. Cons: Carrington 2. Pens: Carrington 2. Bay of Plenty: Tries: Miller, Pryor. Cons: Miller 2. Pens: Miller 4. Dropped goal: Miller

(in Auckland)

ATHLETICS

CRYSTAL PALACE: Performance Games (GB unless stated): Men: 150m: 1, L Christie 15 08sec, 2, I Mackie 15.23, 3 D Braithwaite 15.24. 300m: 1, M Richardson 32.14, 2, J Baulch 32.25; 3, R Black 32.26. 1,000m: 1, V Rodani (Nor) 2min 16 78sec, 2, V Malakwen (Ken) 2 17 09; 3, R Kenah (US) 2 17 29; 5, J Mayock 2 18.48. 2,000m: 1, M Kemo (Ken) 5·02.61, 2, A Belaout (Alg) 5.02 96; 3, G Lough 5·02 98. 110m hurdles: 1, A Jarrett 13 32sec; 2, A Johnson (US) 13.41, 3, C Jackson 13.48. 400m hurdles: 1, K Hamden (Zim) 48 74; 2, E Thomas (US) 48 94; 3, J Ridgeon 49 04. High jump: 1, T Forsyth (Aus) 2.25m; 2, D Grant 2.25; 3, V Voronin (Russ) 2 20. 5, S Smith 2.20. Triple jump: 1, J Edwards 16 93m, 3, S Njerve (Nor) 16 67; 3, F Agyepong 16 58. Javelin: S Backley 82 10m, 2, A Curry (Aus) 82.10, 3, M Hill 80 28. Women: 150m: 1, J Campbell (Jam) 17 08sec; 2, T Mayo (US) 17.19, 3, C Sturrup (Bah) 17 20; 4, S Jacobs 17.26. 300m: 1, C Freeman (Aus) 36 43; 2, K Graham (US) 36 75; 3, J Campbell (Jam) 36 81; 4 P Smith 36.92. 1,000m: 1, T Kiesl (Austria) 2min 37 16sec; 2, L Formanova (Cz) 2:38 48, 3, T Hodgkinson (NZ) 2:38 68, 5, S Bowyer 2:39 80. 100m hurdles: 1, D Rose (Jam) 12 95sec, 2, G Russell (Jam) 12 95; 3, A Thorp 13.13. 400m hurdles: 1, H Meissner (Ger) 54.94, 2, S Smith (Ire) 54 99; 3, R Edeh (Can) 56.25. Triple jump: 1, A Hansen 14 67 (UK and Commonwealth record) 14 67, 2, C Rhodes (US) 14 06, 3, L Dubkova (Rus) 13 97. Javelin: 1, K Forkel (Ger) 63.10m; 2, T Sanderson 61.24; 3, D Lewis 56 50.

MONTE CARLO: Grand prix meeting: Men: 100m: 1, D Bailey (Can) 10 06sec; 2, A Boldon (Trin) 10.09; 3, B Surin (Can) 10 13. 200m: 1, G Moen (Nor) 20 41, 2, A Maybank (US) 20 41; 3, J Williams (US) 20 45. 800m: 1, W Kipketer (Den) 1min 42.58secs, 2 D Kiptoo (Ken) 1:43 58; 3 N Tellez (Cuba) 1.43 99. 1,500m: 1, S Kipkorir (Ken) 3:32 17, 2, W Tanui (Ken) 3:32 42; 3, F Cacho (Sp) 3 32 58, 7, M O'Sullivan (Ire) 3:33 15. 3,000m: 1, D Komen (Ken) 7.25 16; 2, T Nyariki (Ken) 7 27.75, 3, P Bitok (Ken) 7:28 41. 3,000m steeplechase: 1, J Keter (Ken) 8 05 93, 2, G Chirchir (Ken) 8.06.85, 3, P Sang (Ken) 8:09 77. 110m hurdles: 1, A Johnson (US) 13.27sec, 2 R Kingdom (US) 13 30, 3 J Pierce (US) 13 31; 7, C Jackson (GB) 13 93. 400m hurdles: 1, S Matete (Zam) 47.82; 2, D Adkins (US) 48.14, 3, B Bronson (US) 48 37. Triple jump: 1, K Harrison (US) 17 42m, 2, Y Quesada (Cuba) 17.17, 3, B Wellman (Berm) 16 96. Pole vault: 1, M Tarasov (Russ) 5 80m, 2, I Tradenkov (Russ) 5 80; 3, D Markov (Belo) 5 80. Javelin: 1, R Hecht (Ger) 90.20m, 2, S Makarov (Rus) 88 56, 3, J Laukkanen (Fin) 87.12. Women: 100m: 1, G Torrence (US) 10 92sec, 2, G Devers (US) 10 98, 3, I Privalova (Russ) 11 03. 400m: 1, M-J Perec (Fr) 49 18, 2, F Ogunkoya (Nigeria) 49 35, 3, P Davis (Bah) 49 87. 800m: 1, S Mastorkova (Russ) 1min 56 04sec; 2 A Quirot (Cuba) 1 56 29; 3, L Vriesde (Surinam) 1 57 09. Mile: 1, R Jacobs (US) 4.24 22; 2, C Sacramento (Por) 4:25.37; 3, M Crowley (Aus) 4.25 84. 3,000m: 1, G Szabo (Rom) 8.36 07; 2, R Brunet (It) 8 36 12; 3, P Radcliffe (GB) 8:37 07. 100m hurdles: 1, M Freeman (Jam) 12 69sec, 2, B Bukovec (Slovenia) 12.73, 3, A Lopez (Cuba) 12.79. 400m hurdles: 1, K Batten (US) 53.34, 2, T Buford-Bailey (US) 53 85, 3, D Hemmings (Jam) 54.22. Triple jump: 1, I Lasovskaya (Russ) 14.74m; 2, S Kasparkova (Cz) 14 41, 3, G Chistyakova (Slovakia) 14 40. High jump: 1, I Babakova (Ukr) 2.02m, 2, S Kostadinova (Bul) 2.02; 3, H Haugland (Nor) 1.94. Javelin: 1, S Nerius (Ger) 69 42m, 2, F Tilea (Rom) 66 04; 3, T Hattestad (Nor) 65 32. Discus: 1, E Zvereva (Belo) 64 96, 2, I Wyludda (Ger) 64 32; 3, N Grasu (Rom) 63 98.

OORDDEGEM, Belgium: Representative match: South of England v Belgium (winners and British): Men: 200m: 1, P Stevens (Bel) 20 40sec, 3, J Golding (Blackheath) 20 69. 3,000m steeplechase: 1, M Vorpole (Bel) 8min 48 26sec, 3, Newport (Blackheath) 8·53 91. 110m hurdles: 1, S Peters (Bel) 13 41sec, 5, M Stern (Shaftesbury Barnet) 14.22. High jump: 1, R Aspden (Belgrave) 2.15m. Hammer: 1, P Head (Newham and Essex Beagles) 69 28m. Javelin: 1, M van Mensel (Bel) 71 62m, 8, T Ratcliffe (Dacnum and Tring) 59 84. Women: 200m: 1, K Geveart (Bel) 23 79; 2, T Joseph (Basingstoke and Mid Hants) 23.85. 5,000m: 1, M Renders (Bel) 15min 48 92sec; 3, M Myers (Parkside Harrow) 16.41.67. 100m hurdles: 1, M Wilkins (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 13 41sec. Pole vault: 1, S Zubiolo (Bel) 3.70m; 3, L Schrotm (Epsom and Ewell) 3.45m. Long jump: 1, S Henriet (Bel) 6 30m, 6, E Ghojefa (Epsom and Ewell) 5 76. Hammer: 1, L Sprules (Hounslow) 53 70m. Javelin: N Bradshaw (City of Portsmouth) 44 70m.

HENDON: Junior Inter-Area match (winners): Men: 100m: M Tietz (North) 10 74sec. 200m: P Pengo (North) 22 04. 400m: R Edu (South) 47 97. 800m: C Moss (South) 1min 54 61sec. 1,500m: P Morby (Midlands) 3 52 59. 3,000m: A Grafflin (South) 8 23 01. 2,000m steeplechase: S Wurr (Midlands) 6 01.18. 110m hurdles: A Gill (North) 14 78. 400m hurdles: M Lethbridge (South) 54 93. 4 x 100m relay: North 42 64. 4 x 400m relay: South 3min 17 85sec. High jump: D Graham (North) 2 08m. Pole vault: B Flint (North) 4 90m. Long jump: A Wooding (Wales) 6 91m. Triple jump: J Peacock (South) 15 08m. Shot: E Udechuku (South) 15 98m. Discus: Udechuku 54 58m. Hammer: C Walsh (North) 56 96m. Javelin: R Salt (North) 57 88m. 3km walk: S Taylor (Midlands) 14 06 77. Arthur Kendall Trophy: 1, South 231pts, 2, North 207, 3, Midlands 134, 4, Wales 115. Women: 100m: L Sharp (Wales) 12.46. 200m: H Roscoe (North) 24 90m. 400m: L Owusu (South) 56 34. 800m: E Davies (Wales) 2min 10 80sec. 1,500m: J Inkman (North) 4 37 09. 3,000m: D Dagne (South) 9.32 25. 100m hurdles: J Pratt (Essex Ladies) 14 39. 400m hurdles: K Williams (Wales) 60.21. 4 x 100m relay: South 47 80. 4 x 400m relay: South 3min 51 92sec. High jump: S Jones (North) 1 80m. Pole vault: R Clark (South) 3 70m (UK junior record). Long jump: L Eden (North) 5 62m. Triple jump: E Gibbons (South) 12.22m. Shot: J Dunkley (South) 13 05m. Discus: L Keighley (South) 45 64m. Hammer: E Ridgeon (South) 46 64m. Javelin: E Rich (South) 40 50m. 3km walk: N Huckerby (Midlands) 15 12 55. Tallis Swallow Trophy: 1, South 221pts, 2, North 183, 3, Midlands 150, 4, Wales 113.

EXETER: British veterans championships (winners): 100m: K Ansah (Shaftesbury Barnet) 11 03sec. 400m: S Peters (Holbeach) 50 85. 1,500m: D Wilcock (Barnet) 4min 5 82sec. 5,000m: T Clark (Poole) 15.29.7. 400m hurdles: J Owen (Hercules Wimbledon) 59.35sec. Pole vault: G Leckie (Verlea) 3 40m. Long jump: P Oakes (Dartford) 5.90m. Hammer: M Fenton (Newham and Essex Beagles) 56.88m. 3km walk: C Bradley (Liswerry) 14 15 11. Over-45: Discus: P Gordon (Gateshead) 49 16m (British record). Over-80: 100m: C Farey (Kettering Town) 15 79 (British record). Discus: H Karlsson (Sweden) 19 36m. Women: 100m: C Eveleigh (Exeter) 12 46sec. 400m: L Talbot (Thurrock) 59 4. 1,500m: D Howard (Westbury) 4min 51 92sec. 5,000m: A Fletcher (Dulwich Runners) 17·52 58. 400m hurdles: J Low (City of Glasgow) 61 52sec. Pole vault: D Singleton (Walton) 2.20m. Long jump: J Brown (Ashford) 5 23m. Shot: A Hourihan (Cardiff) 11 65m. Hammer: C Cameron (City of Glasgow) 34 20m. 3km walk: A Brewster (Shaftesbury Barnet) 17 45 15. Over-40: 1,500m: A Turrington (Cambridge and Coleridge) 4min 50 85sec. Pole vault: G Hovenngham (North Devon) 2 30 (British record). Over-45: Pole vault: C Eames (Bournemouth) 2 25m. 3km walk: A Lewis (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 16 19 51.

PITREAVIE: TSB Celtic Games: Boys: Under-17: 100m: C Carson (Scot) 11 19sec. 200m: Carson 22.23. 400m: D Lowrey (Ire) 49 1. 800m: T Cartwright (Wales) 1min 56 31sec. 1,500m: P Reilly (Ire) 4·04.88. 100m hurdles: C Low (Scot) 13 9sec. 400m hurdles: R McDonald (Scot) 52 81 (UK record). 4 x 100m relay: Scotland 42 77. High jump: C McMaster (Scot) 2 05m (Games record). Long jump: J Morris (Wales) 6 66m. Shot: S Breathnagh (Ire) 18 62m (Games record). Discus: Breathnagh 47 36m. Javelin: T Kitney (Ire) 65 92m (Games record). Match result: 1, Scotland 43pts, 2, Ireland 40, 3, Wales 35; 4, Northern Ireland 25. Girls: Under-17: 100m: A Hearne (Ire) 12 4sec. 200m: C Sheehey (Ire) 25 26. 300m: S Hickey (Ire) 40 00. 800m: J Ross (Scot) 2min 16 02sec. 1,500m: C Casserley (Ire) 4 47 16. 80m hurdles: J Davis (N Ire) 11 9. 300m hurdles: T Stephens (N Ire) 44 03 (Games record). 4 x 100m relay: Ireland 47 87. High jump: M Smith (Scot) 1 66m. Long jump: G O'Mahoney (Ire) 6 11m (Games record). Shot: J Tindall (Scot) 11 87m. Discus: R Roley (Wales) 39 06m. Javelin: R Hughes (Wales) 39 74m. Match result: 1, Ireland 46pts, 2, Scotland 39; 3, Wales 32. 4, Northern Ireland 36. Boys: Under-15: 100m: J Shenova (Scot) 11 6sec. 200m: Shenova 23 11. 800m: A McIndoe (Scot) 2min 2 17sec. 1,500m: A McCutcheon (Scot) 4 14 84. 80m hurdles: C McPhillips (Ire) 11 2. 4 x 100m relay: Ireland 48 50. High jump: K McKeown (Scot) 2 01m (Games record). Long jump: C Baillie (Scot) 6 60m (Games record). Shot: A Quinn (N Ire) 16.10m. Discus: Quinn 44 80m. Javelin: R Williams (Wales) 58 58m (Games record). Match result: 1, Scotland 43, equal 2, Northern Ireland and Ireland 26; 4, Wales 24. Girls: Under-15: 100m: E Maher (Ire) 12.0sec. 200m: K Canning (Scotland) 25 6. 800m: A Byrne (Ire) 2 14 43. 1,500m: P Sheehan (Ire) 4.39 60. 75m hurdles: D O'Rourke (Ire) 11 6. High jump: G Stewart (N Ire) 1 60m. Long jump: A Cutler (Wales) 5 61m. Shot: D Murphy (Ire) 11 63. Discus: A James (Wales) 33 54m. Javelin: E Kilney (Ire) 33 96m. Match result: 1, Ireland 42pts; 2, Scotland 32, 3, Wales 31; 4, Northern Ireland 15. Overall result: 1, Scotland 157, 2, Ireland 154; 3, Wales 122, 4, Northern Ireland 92.

ROAD RUNNING: Wimbledon: Surrey 5km championship: W Oxborough (Thames Hare and Hounds) 15min 25sec. Team: Ranelagh 12pts. Women: S Young (Dorking and Mole Valley) 17 36.

ROWING

STRATHCLYDE: World championships: Finals: Men: Coxed fours: 1, Romania 6min 25sec, 2, Czech Republic 6 26 3 Russia 6 28 17; 4, Great Britain 6 28 36. Coxed pairs: 1, France 7 18.2, 2, Romania 7 18 9, 3, Holland 7 22, 5, Great Britain 7 27. Lightweight quads: 1, Italy 6 10, 2, Germany 6 11, 3, France 6 11 8, 6, Great Britain 6 20. Lightweight pairs: 1, Denmark 7·06, 2, Ireland 7 09; 3, Germany 7 10, 10, Great Britain 7 17. Lightweight sculls: 1, Denmark 7 35, 2, Czech Republic 7 36, 3, Finland 7 37, 10, Great Britain 7 44. Lightweight eights: 1, Germany 5 55, 2, Denmark 5 56, 3, Canada 5 59, 4, Great Britain 6 01. Women: Coxless fours: 1, United States 6 49, 2, Romania 6 51, 3, Germany 6 55, 9, Great Britain 7·08. Lightweight sculls: 1, Romania 8 06, 2, France 8·07, 3 United States 8 09, 6, Great Britain (Appelboom) 8·27. Lightweight pairs: 1, United States 7 56, 2, Great Britain 8 02, 3, Romania 8 03. Lightweight fours: 1, China 7 08, 2, Great Britain 7 09, 3, United States 7 11. Juniors: Men: Coxed fours: 1, Romania 6 26sec, 2, France 6 28, 3, Poland 6 31, 15, Great Britain 6 51. Coxless pairs: 1, Canada 6 55, 2, Germany 6 59, 3, Slovenia 7 02, 13, Great Britain 7 08. Coxless fours: 1, Slovenia 6 36 35, 2, Australia 6 36.38, 3, Germany 6 37; 5, Great Britain 6·38. Sculls: 1, Australia 7 23, 2, Belorussia 7.24; 3, Greece 7 25 (no Great Britain entry). Coxed pairs: 1, Russia 7·09, 2, Italy 7 14, 3, Germany 7 17, 5, Great Britain 7 25. Double sculls: 1, Australia 6 38 4, 2, Yugoslavia 6 38 6, 3, Switzerland 6 43, 11, Great Britain 6 46. Quad sculls: 1, Denmark 6 09, 2, France 6 10; 3, Italy 6 11, 8th, Great Britain 6 16. Eights: 1, Romania 5 54, 2, Germany 5 56, 3, Great Britain 6 02. Women: Coxless pairs: 1, Germany 7:42; 2, Russia 7 46, 3, Australia 7.52, 6, Great Britain 8 08. Coxless fours: 1, Germany 7 10, 2, Romania 7 11, 3, New Zealand 7 14, 6, Great Britain 7 26. Sculls: 1, Slovenia 8 24; 2, Germany 8·32, 3, Russia 8 32 3 (no Great Britain entry). Double sculls: 1, Poland 7.21, 2, Austria 7.25, 3, Germany 7 26, 11th, Great Britain 7.51. Quad sculls: 1, Holland 6 44, 2, Germany 6 47, 3, Switzerland 6 49, 4, Great Britain 6 53. Eights: 1, Germany 6 38, 2, Romania 6 46, 3, Denmark 6 51 (no Great Britain entry)

POOLS CHECK

VICTORIA: Second division: Altona City 0 S Dandenong 2, Bell Park 1 Waverley 1 East Altona 3 Nunawading 1, Knox City 1 Frankston P 1 Ragent 1 E Brunswick 2; West Vale 2 E Richmond 1. Postponed: Mooroolbrook v Oakleigh. Third division: Banyule 0 S Caulfield 1: Chelsea 3 Fitzroy 0 Clifton Hill 2 Melbourne C 2 Pascoe Vale 1 Keilor 1, S Springvale 1 Diamond V 1, S Werribee 0 Cranbourne 2. Postponed: Ringwood C v Frankston. Fourth division: Cono 0 Sun Heights 5, Langwarrin 3 Lalor 1, Monbulk 1 Yarraville 1; Moreland 1 Sunbury 0, N Coburg 4 Geelong 1 Sealord Utd 1 Williamstown 1, Stonnington 4 Sandringham 2. Fifth division: Glenroy 0 Ballarat 1, Mornington 0 Geelong R 4, Springvale C 2 Molton 2. Postponed: Heidelberg C v Doveton. Mitcham v Keysborough. N Sunshine v Knox Pk, S Wantirna v Old Scotch.

WEST AUSTRALIA: First division: Bassendean 0 Ashfield 3, Joondalup 7 North Lake 0, Perth City 1 Fremantle C 2 Rockingham 2 Balcatta 0 Southside 0 Morley 0. Postponed: Dianella v Cockburn.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Premier division: Blue Eagles 3 Croydon 2, Port Lion 0 Campbelltown 2, Salisbury 2 Olympians 1; Woodville 6 Adelaide R 0. First division: Adelaide City 2 Port Pirie 5, Elizabeth 0 Cumberland 1, Enfield 2 W Adelaide 1. Noarlunga 1 Modbury 1, Para Hills 7 Seaford 0, WT Birkalla 2 Plympton 1.

QUEENSLAND: Third division: Annerley 0 Mitchelton 2. Postponed: Western S v Souths Utd. Fourth division: Bayside 2 Moggill 2, Browns P 1 North Pine 6; Pine Hills 5 Ipswich 1; Samford 8 Greenbank 1.

TASMANIA NORTH: Premier division: Burnie 9 LW Eagles 0, Launceston 5 Devonport 1 Somerset 0 Ulverstone 5, Western Sub 2 St Leonards 0

NEW SOUTH WALES: First division: Bathurst 3 Auburn 1, Minotaurs 1 Hills Utd 1. Third division: Hawkesbury 1 Earlwood 1, Wanderers 1 Gladesville 1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3

FORECAST. Telephone claims not required, dividend is low. There were thirteen score and two no-score draws.

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ATHLETICS: HANSEN SETS TRIPLE JUMP RECORD AS BRITAIN'S OLYMPIANS FIND SPARSE GUARD OF HONOUR AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Atlanta braves make do with low-key home run

Christie: farewell

By Nick Szczepanik

HAVING heard that British Olympians had resorted to selling their kit in order to make ends meet in Atlanta, I was on the lookout for bargains *outside Crystal Palace* yesterday before the Performance Games. I rather fancied a Great Britain tracksuit. No go, unfortunately. Perhaps things were not as bad as we have been led to believe.

To hear people talk, one would imagine *that Britain had* won nothing at the Olympics. At least Britain's athletes secured some medals, while Terry Venables's football squad only managed the fair-play award in Euro 96; but then the Olympians did not have a catchy song. "Athletics is *coming home*" does not quite have the ring of that other summer anthem of 1996. Nothing, it seems, succeeds like perceived success.

Expectations are also a factor, as Ashia Hansen, *fourth in the Olympic* triple jump, said after setting a United Kingdom record of 14.67 metres yesterday. "There was a lot of pressure out there in Atlanta, and I put a lot of pressure on myself," she said. "I wasn't expecting to jump as well as I did today. I've been ill for a couple of days with a sore *throat, coming* back to the English weather, but today I was able to relax. It was the performance I was looking for at the Olympics."

As the announcer said, part of the function of this invitation meeting was to welcome Britain's Olympians back *from Atlanta. After* complaints about the steam bath climate, they were probably delighted to get back to cool, overcast and *intermittently rainy south London.* Like the weather, the attendance was patchy, although early forecasts of an embarrassingly small crowd were not borne out. Even so, the place was barely one-third full for the return of Black, Edwards, Lewis, Backley and friends.

Results 28

"Coming back to a half-empty stadium is very depressing, and we all felt it, every one of us," Roger Black, a double silver medal-winner in Atlanta, said. "Is it because we *didn't win any gold medals? I don't* think so. British athletics should be able to fill this stadium every time, but this was too close to the last *grand prix, and probably under*-promoted. It's saddest for Linford, on possibly his last appearance at Crystal Palace." Unless Dave Bassett makes him an offer, that is. Christie signed off with a comfortable win in the 150 metres before saying: "I'll be back next year — sitting in the stand."

Like Black, Mark Richardson — also a member of the 4 x 400 metres silver medal-winning team, and the winner of the 300 metres yesterday — denied that popular reaction to Atlanta had been as negative as that in the media. "I've experienced mass *hysteria, really,"* he said. "I didn't expect the reaction. You would have thought we'd won the gold."

Olympians from other countries were also present. Vebjörn Rodal, of Norway, for example, the 800 *metres gold medal-winner, won the* men's 1,000 metres, and the former world javelin champion, Karen Forkel, of Germany, beat Tessa Sanderson into second place. Appearing to look towards the press box, Sanderson announced that reports of her retirement had been exaggerated. "I will be at the world *championships next year. You don't* just lie down and die at 40," she said, which will be a relief to many.

Tony Jarrett, with a little finger-waving as he won the 110 metres hurdles, was the closest the crowd saw to any of the triumphalism for which *the Americans* were criticised, although they had a lot to be triumphal about. Faint praise, on the other hand, may be as damaging to British athletes' chances as high hopes. "John Ridgeon — still *unbeaten by a British* athlete in 1996," the announcer said, putting on the bravest face possible as Ridgeon faded from first over the final hurdle to a gallant third at the tape in the 400 metres hurdles.

The crowd had not been fooled, of course. Their cheers had died away with Ridgeon's chances of victory. *And they know what they like.* A devil-take-the-hindmost men's 3,000 metres featured, yes, a man dressed as the Devil, complete with pitchfork, whose job it was to remove the back marker at the end of each lap. The tut-tutting in the press box was in contrast to the enjoyment of the crowd. Serious business, athletics. Atlanta a national tragedy? Maybe not quite.

TRIATHLON

Late charge by Lessing takes race by storm

By David Powell

THE image of triathlon is of sunny days, bronzed bodies and golden beaches in Hawaii or on the Côte D'Azur. When the International Triathlon Grand Prix made its entry into Britain yesterday it rained so hard that the start was postponed twice.

The race was delayed when word reached Longleat that brighter weather was on the way but, as the music on the public address suggested, it was *Mission Impossible.* After 65 minutes, officials gave up waiting for the deluge to stop and the 20 invited triathletes dived into the lake next to Longleat House.

If it was a typically British wintry summer's day, there was at least a typical victory to enjoy. Simon Lessing, the long course and standard distance *world champion, pulled away* on the final three-kilometre run to take the overall grand-prix lead after two of the eight races in the series.

Results 28

"The weather *conditions* made it very challenging," Lessing said. "You had to be careful not to slide out on the bike." Lessing and Brad Beven, the Australian who finished second, had to be especially careful. Two weeks hence they will be the main contestants in the standard *distance world championship* in Cleveland, Ohio.

Lessing said that his victory on the 10,000-acres Longleat estate was a jab in Beven's jaw. Beven was runner-up when the Briton took the standard *distance title in* Cancun, Mexico, last November. "Brad is going to be my main opposition in Cleveland and this gives me a little *psychological advantage,"* Lessing said.

In contrast to championship racing, the $1 million (about £660,000) *grand prix, which is* in its inaugural year, has put the emphasis on explosive competition. Yesterday the Enduro format was used. This *involved* a 500-metre *swim,* 14-kilometre ride and three-kilometre run, repeating the dose without a break.

Lessing, third out of the water on the first lap, settled in the chasing group of riders for much of the second phase. However, by the end of the six-lap cycle course the two leading groups, comprising eight competitors, had closed together.

By the end of the second swim, the leading group was *down to four,* Lessing, Beven, Hamish Carter, from New Zealand, and Ben Wright, from Australia. They remained together through the *ride but were broken up in the* final transition when Carter, first out and barefoot, was followed swiftly by Lessing.

Each competitor had been introduced beforehand according to his sobriquet. Chris "The Professor" Hill, Brad "The Croc" Beven, Jimmy "The Cockroach" Riccitello. By *the time it came* to Greg Welch, water had got into the PA. "Greg — we call him Mickey Mouse. I'm sorry Mighty Mouse — Welch". Squelch.

Although there was nothing to choose between the four leaders after five of the six sections, Lessing, a renowned *strong runner,* always looked the most likely winner. The *sting in the race had been* removed the day before when Spencer Smith, his fellow Briton and winner of the opening grand prix in Koblenz, *withdrew.*

Smith fell down the stairs at his grandmother's home in Twickenham, hurting his ribs. After riding the bicycle course on Saturday, he decided he was not fit to compete. "This *quality of field you have to be* 100 per cent," Smith said. "I am not willing to show myself up." It was to have been the *only race between the two* Britons, the world's leading triathletes, in Britain this year.

Smith, twice the standard distance world champion, will *have an X-ray examination* today to determine whether his ribs are cracked or, as he believes, only bruised. Like Lessing, this was to have been his last race before turning his attention to a world title although, *in Smith's case,* his eyes are not on Cleveland.

Lessing is not defending his long course title in Muncie, *Indiana, next month, but* Smith is determined to make sure that both championships remain in British hands. He will return tomorrow to his home in San Diego, having moved there three years ago for warm-weather training, to prepare for Muncie. He has resolved, whatever the diagnosis, to train through with the world championships in mind.

The South African-born Lessing banked $25,000 for his victory, recording 1hr 19min 21sec. Beven, *six seconds* behind, took $20,000 and Bright, who clocked 1:19.38, $15,000 for third.

Rarely can a sports event with so much prize-money have had such little spectator support, fewer than 1,000 in attendance. The adverse weather and out-of-town venue proved an unappealing combination and next year the *event is likely to move to Bath* City centre.

NACHELLE CROWTHER

Lessing shows the strain on his way to victory in the first International Grand Prix race to be held in Britain

Snow melts in face of Fahey's power

ROBERT FAHEY, the world champion, underlined his supremacy when he beat the British No 1, Julian Snow, in straight sets to win the Australian Open real tennis championship. Fahey, who had looked vulnerable earlier in the tournament, dropping two sets to the unseeded Mike Happell, was fast and aggressive against Snow, making full use of his home advantage on the unpredictable Hobart court and forcing with extraordinary accuracy on almost every point. Snow fought gallantly, attempting to break up his opponent's rhythm, but failed to make an impression.

☐ Kate Leeming, of Great Britain, the new Harbour Club assistant professional, inflicted a crushing defeat on the highly experienced Karen Toates, wife of the Melbourne professional, Barry, to reach the semi-final of the Australian Open women's championship at Hobart.

Pankratov best again

SWIMMING: Dennis Pankratov, of Russia, set a world record of 23.68sec in the 50 metres butterfly at a meeting in *Mulhouse, France, on Saturday, beating the previous record* by 0.37sec. The previous record of 24.05sec was set by Byron Davis, of the United States, in Indianapolis in March. Pankratov is the Olympic champion and world record-holder over 100 and 200 metres butterfly.

England sweep board

SHOOTING: England's clay pigeon shooters dominated *the Express World Sporting Championship at the* West Midland Shooting Ground yesterday, winning 12 medals. Carl Bloxham, of Warwickshire, won the senior gold medal ahead of George Digweed, the three-times world champion. Glenn Eller III, of the United States, won the junior title. All four team gold medals were also won by England.

Ball finds the target

RIFLE SHOOTNG: The Great Britain touring team dominated the British Columbia Rifle Championships, winning four of the five aggregates and three single-range matches. There was constant rivalry between Chief Petty Officer Nigel Ball, from Hampshire, the eventual winner of the overall championship, and Chris Weeden, from Kent, who finished third behind Mike Dunia, of the United States.

Lacey dies aged 75

RUGBY UNION: Eric Lacey, the president of Leicester during their *centenary season in 1980-81, died yesterday.* He was 75 and had been suffering from ill health for some time. Lacey played 175 times for Leicester as a lock forward and also appeared for the Barbarians. He would have completed 50 years' service to the club as both player and administrator *next year.*

Woolmer impressed by display of youthful skills

By Ivo Tennant

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

TO QUALIFY for the semi-*finals of the Lombard World* Challenge, the compelling inaugural under-15 World Cup, England, who have gained victories over Canada and Zimbabwe, have to win their final group A match at Lensbury in west *London* today. If they lose, West Indies, their opponents, will go through with India. Likewise, South Africa have to beat *Australia to* join either Pakistan, who have won their first three matches, or Sri Lanka from group B.

There was a rest day yesterday, at least for the boys, who have mixed together well. In celebration of the competition, a charity celebrity match was staged at Oundle School, the bowling opened by Devon Malcolm and ... Samantha Fox. She had one reasonably presentable over, although this was *not exactly* what Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, was referring to when he declared how impressed he was at the standard of the cricket he had *seen during* the first week.

The very fact that Woolmer was present, at a time when he was supposed to be on holiday, was testimony to the thoroughness with which South Africa plan for the *future. He believes that the* replacements for the likes of Donald and de Villiers will come from this age group. In other words, he is looking for *some* of these 15-year-olds to be Test cricketers within the next four years.

There have been other familiar figures at Oundle, a school with impressive pitches. Indeed, one of them arrived *to visit his son at 2am last* Thursday, only to find him, not surprisingly, asleep in the dormitories that are housing the boys. Abdul Qadir, the *great Pakistani leg spinner,* always had a sense of the *dramatic. In the marriage hall* that he runs in Lahore, there is a mural depicting a young Imran Khan with full, sensuous lips. Qadir named his son *after his former* captain.

The Pakistanis are perhaps the strongest *team in the* two groups. Imran Qadir, although he lost his length last week, has already mastered the googly. Bazid Khan, *Majid's son, who is expected* to progress as quickly as the captain, Faisal Iqbal, attends Aitchison College in Lahore, which in terms of educational standards and sporting facilities is comparable to the top public *schools in England.* Both Majid and Imran Khan went there.

The teams that cannot now qualify are Canada and Holland — neither of whom won any of their four matches — *Zimbabwe and, surprisingly* in the light of the pride they take in developing young cricketers, Australia, who have won only once.

Rather than fly home, the teams from these countries will take part in a *mini* tournament at Oundle this week, while the semi-finalists *move on to Trent Bridge and* Headingley.

TENNIS

Agassi and Chang to clash in final again

By Our Sports Staff

ANDRE AGASSI and Michael Chang will meet for the ATP Championship title in Mason, Ohio, for the second successive year after beating Thomas Muster and Thomas Enqvist, respectively, in the semi-finals.

Agassi, the defending cham*pion and sixth seed, still on* a high after winning the Olympic gold medal, dominated Muster, the second seed, throughout his 6-4, 6-1 victory.

"I think my motivation is *really simple,"* Agassi said. "Muster is world No 2 and has been playing good tennis, so I wanted to go out there and prove I could win the match." Muster admitted he had no answer to Agassi's onslaught.

Chang, third seed, reached his fourth successive final of *this event, which he* won in 1993 and 1994, with a 6-1, 2-6, 6-2, win over Enqvist, the tenth seed — his first victory over the Swede, who had won *their three previous meetings.*

"I don't think I served very well," Enqvist said. "I was trying to play aggressively and I must be on top of the points all the time to beat Michael."

Agassi, the world No 7, has won ten of his 16 meetings with Chang.

Monica Seles and Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, the leading seeds in the du Maurier Canadian Open in Montreal, had little trouble in coming through their respective semi-finals to book a meeting in the final.

Seles, who is the defending champion, top seed and joint world No 1, beat the unseeded *Yayuk Basuki, of Indonesia,* 6-0, 6-3, while Sánchez Vicario, the second seed, saw off the American, Kimberly Po, 6-0, 6-4.

The final will be the first clash between the pair since Seles returned to competition a year ago at this event after a 27-month absence.

Sánchez Vicario was reported as opposing the special ranking accorded to Seles after her stabbing in Hamburg in April 1993. But after beating the unseeded Po, the Spaniard played down any suggestion the final would be a grudge match.

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RUGBY UNION: LAST-QUARTER RALLY PUTS NEW ZEALAND IN MOOD TO WIN FIRST SERIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

All Blacks set sights on higher prize

South Africa 18
New Zealand 29

By David Hands

THIS MAY have been the final match of the southern hemisphere's inaugural tri-nations series, but New Zealand have turned it into the entrée for the only prize in world rugby to have eluded them, a series win in South Africa, for which the host country will be shorn of their inspirational captain, François Pienaar.

Thus victory in Cape Town on Saturday, in a final-quarter rally stunning even by their own standards, has laid down a marker for the next three internationals that form part of the All Blacks tour. Significantly, it was achieved without Jonah Lomu, the giant wing who has come to personify the new All Blacks.

There have been those — notably in England, who suffered at his hands in the World Cup semi-final on the same Newlands ground last year — who have made Lomu the difference between New Zealand and the rest. A damaged knee had not mended in time to allow him to play against South Africa, yet New Zealand still had the physical, and mental, resources to overcome the boulder that is the home defence.

At 18-6 down early in the second half, New Zealand's cause looked bleak. They had lost Little, their centre, they were making numerous mistakes on a slippery surface and they had conceded two tries to the World Cup holders. But the South Africa scrum never attained the dominance that André Markgraaf, their coach, may have expected and Ian Jones brought New Zealand back into the lineout contest.

The game of the future may feature close support work and second phase but the ability to compete at the set-pieces remains a prerequisite. That was never better illustrated than when New Zealand pounded away with multi-phase movements only to get their crucial try — their first in 390 minutes of striving against these opponents — from a lineout won by Robin Brooke. It earned them the lead for the first time in the match with only nine minutes remaining.

The two facets of the game go hand-in-hand, of course, with New Zealand's speed of movement sapping the strength of a tiring defence. Yet the try by Osborne, ironically, Lomu's replacement, featured wonderful accuracy by Mehrtens in the pass, by Cullen in the line of his run and by Osborne, himself, as he stepped inside three covers. Most of all, it illustrated the commitment to attack that is now the trademark of the All Blacks.

Moreover, Fitzpatrick's men kept their heads. While South Africa plunged back to the New Zealand 22, there was a frenetic edge to their play that had not been there earlier and which culminated in a bout of ill temper and a double penalty to New Zealand. Mehrtens kicked them to the lineout, from which Dowd dived over for the try that sealed South Africa's fate.

It is a moot point whether the loss of Pienaar with half an hour still to play affected the result, which leaves New Zealand unbeaten at the top of the tri-nations table and South Africa rooted to the bottom. The balance of back-row defence was upset, Andrews moving to the blind-side flank from lock because there was no specialist back-row forward on the South Africa bench; the captaincy passed to the experienced Teichmann.

Both Pienaar and du Randt, the loose-head prop, left the field on stretchers with their heads immobilised. X-rays revealed that Pienaar had suffered a slipped vertebra and will not play for at least three weeks while du Randt had suffered concussion and must rest for the mandatory 30 days. Both players will miss the back-to-back internationals this month, beginning this Saturday in Durban.

SCORERS: South Africa: Tries: Mulder, du Randt. Conversion: Stransky. Penalty goals: Stransky (2). New Zealand: Tries: Osborne, Dowd. Conversions: Mehrtens (2). Penalty goals: Mehrtens (5).

SOUTH AFRICA: J T Small (Natal); P Hendriks (Transvaal), J C Mulder (Transvaal), H P le Roux (Transvaal), J Swart (Western Province); J T Stransky (Western Province), J H van der Westhuizen (Northern Transvaal); J P du Randt (Free State), J Allan (Natal), M H Hurter (Northern Transvaal), J F Pienaar (Transvaal, captain), S Atherton (Natal), M G Andrews (Natal), R J Kruger (Northern Transvaal), G H Teichmann (Natal). Pienaar replaced by J J Strydom (Transvaal, 54min). Du Randt replaced by D Theron (Griqualand West, 80)

NEW ZEALAND: C M Cullen (Manawatu); J W Wilson (Otago), F E Bunce (North Harbour), W K Little (North Harbour), G M Osborne (North Harbour); A P Mehrtens (Canterbury), J W Marshall (Canterbury); C W Dowd (Auckland), S B T Fitzpatrick (Auckland, captain), O M Brown (Auckland), M N Jones (Auckland), I D Jones (North Harbour), R M Brooke (Auckland), J A Kronfield (Otago), Z V Brooke (Auckland). Little replaced by A Ieremia (Wellington, 42min). Kronfield replaced by A Blowers (Auckland, 67).

Referee: D T M McHugh (Ireland)

DAVID ROGERS/ALLSPORT

Ian Jones, the New Zealand lock, bursts through the despairing tackles of the South Africa lock, Steve Atherton (left), and prop, Os du Randt

SAILING

Smooth start by Silk 2 secures class

Edward Gorman reviews the honours list at an incident-packed Cowes Week

The battle of the Bashfords was finally settled on the last day of racing at Skandia Life Cowes Week on Saturday. Jocelyn Waller's *Silk 2* sailed her best race of the regatta, in 20 knots of breeze, to take a well-earned win in Class 1 from Glynn Williams's *Wolf*.

The two yachts — both Bashford-Howison 41s — had enjoyed close racing all week, with the lighter *Wolf* giving her sister ship 20 seconds an hour on handicap. In the end it all came down to the last race with both yachts clear of the chasing pack.

Mark Heeley, the helmsman on *Silk 2*, said: "We started better than they did, got ahead on the first shift and then stayed ahead all the way round. It turned out to be our best overall result — we beat them on the water by over three minutes."

Heeley, with Whitbread veterans Gordon Maguire and Steve Hales as skipper and navigator, finished with impressive results. He had four wins and two seconds and was able to discard a further second and a retirement. *Wolf*, with former Whitbread skipper Matt Humphries at the wheel, had three wins, a second and two thirds, discounting a third and a fifth.

The victory for *Silk 2* came after a brush with tragedy last Tuesday. She was surfing along under spinnaker at 17 knots about half a mile to the west of the Bramble Bank, when the breeze suddenly increased from 35 to 45 knots and she tripped up and almost pitch-poled.

Instantly overpowered, *Silk 2* slid down a wave and carried on going. She pivoted for a moment with her stern sticking up at right angles to the surface of the water and with all her deck in front of the mast submerged. She then fell away to port and righted herself.

Ed Waller, the son of the owner and the most inexperienced crew member, was thrown right over the top of the rig and then went under the boat as it rolled on top of him. Happily, he was quickly recovered, shaken but unhurt. Remarkably, *Silk 2* emerged relatively unscathed. The mast survived intact and some superficial damage was repaired overnight.

Adam Gosling, who won the Etchells world championship at Cowes in June, followed up with a resounding win in the class, emerging at the end of the seven-race series on Saturday with 3.75 points. With his world championship-winning crew of David Howlett and Mark Cavell again on board, Gosling, on *Yes!*, notched up five wins, including one in the last race.

"We had a winning team so we thought after the world championship we'd do Cowes and have a fun week and a holiday," Gosling said. He will be going to Hong Kong for a pre-world championship regatta in November, in preparation for his title defence there next year. "It's one thing to win the world title," he said. "Trying to stay on top is the hard bit."

The Solent Sunbeam fleet lost two races for the second year running when there was no wind on the first day and far too much on the fourth. Yet despite this, no discard was allowed which perhaps influenced the final results overmuch.

Alan Stannah, with *Jenny*, emerged the winner for the third year in a row with a consistent but not sparkling performance. John and Jane Maxwell's *Harmony* finished just a point behind. Roger Wickens, with *Danny*, had the best results in the first three with three wins and a second, but could not shed a disqualification from race one and had to settle for third.

The feature of the week in the class, however, was undoubtedly the appearance of *Polly*, skippered by Jonathan Money — the first Falmouth Sunbeam to take on the Itchenor-based Cowes Week fleet since 1971. *Polly*, which does not normally sail with a spinnaker, was sporting a slightly bigger jib than her hosts and was definitely quicker upwind.

Money put together three wins, a second and a disqualification, before packing up to return to Falmouth on Friday night. He is coming back next year and is hoping that more Cornish boats will join him.

The maxi class, which had its own starts for the first time in ten years, was won by Ludde Ingvall's Grand Mistral one-design *Nicorette*, which celebrated with an unsuccessful attempt on Longobarda's Round-the-Island record on Saturday.

One other notable performance was that of the Class Four winner *Owl*, a Contessa 33 owned by Peter Bruce, which finished with just 4.5 points after winning six of the seven races she sailed.

Unsure England to carry on planning

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

THEIR international programme in the new year may remain in doubt but England's playing preparations are going forward apace. Jack Rowell, the national manager, watched yesterday's international between South Africa and New Zealand in Cape Town while John Elliott, the national development officer, will watch four of England's hopefuls in action for the Barbarians against Scotland next Saturday.

A squad of 45 — albeit without such luminaries as Will Carling, Dean Richards and Rory Underwood — has already met to train at Bisham Abbey and it will reassemble on September 4 as England build towards their first commitment of the season, against Italy at Twickenham on November 23.

"We have our problems but, for the first time ever, we have a planned season," Elliott, who will be watching Tony Underwood and the Leicester front row at Murrayfield, said. "In the past we have flown by the seat of our pants. Next season we will know exactly when we have our players and that's a huge breakthrough."

It is intended to bring the under-21 elite development squad to train with the seniors at Bisham, though the international planning is being affected by the uncertainty of the club schedule. Elliott and his colleagues intend to build sessions around the Anglo-Welsh midweek tournament, except that no one yet knows whether that competition will get off the ground.

Whether England's post-Christmas programme of five nations' matches takes place remains in the hands of the game's politicians but, irrespective of that, their three pre-Christmas internationals do not compare with those of Wales, who could be involved in as many as six preparatory matches before next February.

Beginning with the meeting with the Barbarians in Cardiff on August 24, Wales move on to games with France (September 25), Italy (in Rome on October 5), and South Africa (Cardiff, December 15). In addition, they hope that Australia will be able to fit in an extra international in late November, on the back of their scheduled tour of Scotland and Ireland, and the United States will make a brief visit in January, culminating in an international with Wales on January 11.

The revised Welsh coaching panel now includes Paul Turner, who will assist Swansea's Mike Ruddock with the emerging players. Turner, the new director of coaching at Bedford, was interviewed for the post of coach to England's Under-21 team last season.

American dream to shape future

David Hands meets the man overseeing the process of change in rugby union

If the southern hemisphere's tri-nations tournament, which concluded on Saturday, has illustrated one element above all others it is the narrow plateau which exists at the top of world rugby. New Zealand enjoy supremacy and there are no more than five other countries capable of extending, let alone defeating, them.

That is an unhealthy situation for a sport hoping to promote itself as a genuine international competitor and one that stands high on the agenda of Tom Wacker, the American who is now the chief executive of the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB). It is Wacker's responsibility to help manage the process of change in which rugby union is now involved as it moves into the professional arena.

"I think rugby union can take control of its own destiny, I hope it can," Wacker, 53, said. If not, the genial former prop from Indianapolis will want to know why. He is one of the new generation of rugby administrators, including Richard Jasinski (Wales), Philip Browne (Ireland) and David Moffett (New Zealand) with no illustrious playing background to speak of but a proven career of success in business.

Though one of his initial tasks is to oversee next month the removal of the board from its Bristol home to St Stephen's Green in Dublin, Wacker sees the IRFB function as threefold: to administer and control rugby's laws in a uniform manner, to develop the game and improve playing standards and to promote rugby so that it becomes more relevant as an international sport.

"Playing tournaments is the best promotion which is why we will throw some of our influence on the world youth tournament [which the Federation International de Rugby Amateur has run successfully for several years] and the women's world tournament," Wacker said. That is in addition to the Rugby World Cup and the RWC sevens.

"It's not good for the game that Australia, who beat Canada and Wales by such large margins, should lose as heavily as they did to New Zealand in Wellington," Wacker said. "I think we should have closer games between the top sides. I would like to see 20 teams worldwide playing within 20 points of each other.

"That would be a credible goal for the IRFB to try to achieve, within five years. It would be too soon for the 1999 World Cup, though we can at least get better in that time. We have to break it down and understand why New Zealand play so well: is it numbers, is it their schools programme, do talented young players elsewhere choose to play, say, Australian rules or rugby league?

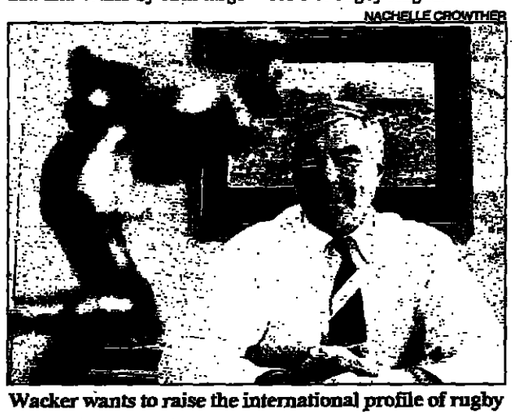
"We at the board have to ask ourselves how we can influence the sport youngsters choose to play, and, after they have chosen, examine whether the quality of coaching, physical fitness and mental preparation which New Zealand offer is so much better."

Having, in Lee Smith, a New Zealander as the IRFB technical director allows the board to offer informed advice on the subject of self-improvement, but it remains a source of concern to Wacker that the home of the game — Britain — is only slowly coming to terms with professionalism. "It's hard to change people's minds overnight but that fact is that rugby is now an open game and it will never go back," he said.

"The change was inevitable. Rugby league was intending to offer big money to the New Zealanders and Australians, the World Rugby Corporation was planning a professional tournament and the southern-hemisphere countries were negotiating with Rupert Murdoch's organisation. The fourth alternative, to stay amateur, was not an alternative.

"I hope we can keep it under sufficient control, although I think it will take two or three years to sort out. Expenses have gone up like a rocket but revenue has stayed more or less the same. Lots of liabilities, not too many more assets and it will have to come back a bit before a premier league settles into place, internationally and nationally in the bigger countries."

NACHELLE CROWTHER



Wacker wants to raise the international profile of rugby

Chasing Olympic gold now a serious business

THE BUSINESS OF SPORT

It may be an unpalatable thought for those suffering from sports fatigue after sitting through every event at Atlanta, but the real race for gold at the next Olympic Games has already started.

For the moment, the battle will be fought outside the Olympic arena and have more to do with scoring points in the political than the boxing ring. But the upshot of Great Britain's dismal showing in Atlanta looks likely to result in the nation finally learning to treat Olympic sports as a serious business.

Britain's less than flattering position in the medals table is a legacy of an amateur tradition that has bequeathed a rickety funding structure but, despite the nation's penchant for glorious defeats, being a good amateur is no longer enough to guarantee even modest success on the world stage.

Some competitors, especially the more glamorous athletes, have been able to make the leap to a truly professional footing, but most of the British Olympians will always lack the televisual appeal that is central to the financial boom in sports such as football and rugby. Equally, the big sports companies will only ever be looking to back the real crowd-pullers in the 100 metres final. It is never going to be a realistic business venture providing large sponsorship contracts to the rifle-shooting team, whose brief moment of glory only arrives once every four years.

The two chunks of lottery money that have been promised to help to support athletes in the next few years will help to plug the gap. The £100 million mooted for the establishment of a national academy of sport is only a headline figure — no one is quite certain how much the project will cost at this stage. The tendering process for the central academy and the specialist regional centres has only just begun. But it seems likely that the private sector will also have a role to play, topping up funds for facilities in return for a sponsorship name.

A further £30 million of lottery money has been pledged to help to meet the training costs of athletes. Again, the true cost can only be guessed at and the private sector is likely to be asked to help contribute.

A few private-sector companies had already begun to play a role in helping British sport before the Olympics. Mercury Asset Management (MAM), the City-based fund management group, is not the kind of business that would normally be associated with sport. But MAM has invested around £60,000 in the past two years, helping several young Olympians to reach the games. MAM's support yielded one outstanding success — Ben Ainslie, who at 19 became the youngest Olympic sailor to win a medal.

MAM channelled its support through the Sports Aid Foundation, a voluntary organisation that provides financial support to up-and-coming athletes from the age of 12. The Sports Aid Foundation is a classic example of the archaic nature of sports funding in this country, dependent on voluntary contribtions and fund-raising events for its £2 million budget.

The foundation says that the poor showing in the Olympics has already prompted a number of other companies to come forward and offer some help. Seeboard, the electricity company based in the South East, has already unveiled a £100,000 sponsorship programme for five athletes drawn from its area.

Realistically, Olympians are never going to attract the kind of money ploughed into other professional sports. The attraction for the private sector, though, is that this form of sponsorship is in tune with the kind of community-based charity expenditure that most large companies already make. It has, however, little in common with the huge marketing exercises undertaken by official sponsors of the Games and is unlikely ever to appeal to the Coca-Colas of this world. Investing in athletes will allow companies in less glamorous industries to dream a little of sharing the glory of a British gold in 2000.

ALASTAIR MURRAY

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RACING

Wrong game-plan weighs heavily in Cigar's downfall

JULIAN MUSCAT

On a champion denied his record

The pre-race parade went routinely enough but the blaring hunting horns might have hinted at what was to come. Five minutes after Cigar was prematurely fanfared he was but a helpless fox, ruthlessly outmanoeuvred by a pack of blood-thirsty hounds.

So the dream was gone, buried in the quicksands of southern California. There was to be no passing Citation's twentieth century record of 16 consecutive victories.

The cause was lost when two sacrificial horses harried him to the point of exhaustion, leaving Dare And Go, an unconsidered 40-1 outsider ridden by Alex Solis, to pounce for the easiest of kills in the $1 million Pacific Classic here on Saturday.

Much later, as the shock dissipated from more than 44,000 racegoers, all that remained was a mountain of discarded betting tickets, most purchased as souvenirs of the moment that never came. This is earthquake territory and Cigar's eclipse registered highly on the Richter Scale of sporting upsets.

Yet his trainer, Bill Mott, was as gracious in defeat as he has been through more than two years of unbroken success. He recognised that human error had cruelly robbed Cigar of the laurels.

It is particularly sad to witness the felling of a thoroughbred hero. The equine face, forever set in its expression, betrays no emotion. Yet in watching the horse two hours after his defeat, it was evident that something had snapped. For days he had stood aloof, arching his neck to the prying cameras. Now he was broken, his head lowered, his eye dulled by the pain of defeat.

Back at the barn, where hundreds had once gathered to fete his every move, Cigar was alone as Mott examined his frame for evidence of injury. There was none. "He just knew he got beat," Mott said yesterday before flying back to his base in New York. "He was a bit lower than what I've seen him after his races. Otherwise, he seems fine."

These were poignant moments for the likeable trainer. With Cigar almost certain to assume stud duites at the year's end, Mott's days with the horse are numbered. He is already assembling memories but this will be the one he treasures least. "I've been thinking lately that time is winding down," he said.

He added: "It would be nice if I could find a few more minutes in the day to spend with him. I have braced myself for him to get beaten but this time I found I was preparing myself a little bit more. I can't say why."

Mott's pre-race reflections might provide the answer. He was anxious about the presence of Siphon, a free-running spirit who had fractured his field on his last start.

Together with Jerry Bailey, Cigar's regular rider, Mott was reluctant to let Siphon enjoy the uncontested lead on which the Brazilian-bred thrives. Thus Cigar latched onto Siphon's tail from the start, his close attentions frustrating Siphon into a frantic gallop from which both horses would never recover.

In racing they say the clock is like a mirror: it never lies. Cigar's prowess is such that he might have coped with an opening half-mile completed in 45.6sec.

That sort of pace is generated by five-furlong sprinters but Cigar had twice as far to travel. And the situation degenerated beyond repair when Dramatic Gold rushed up on Cigar's outside to force the pace even faster.

Thus Bailey was on the horns of an uncomfortable dilemma. He knew the pace was untenable, but to ease off would have invited Dramatic Gold to move alongside and trap him behind Siphon. As Bailey later recounted: "That would have put me at their mercy. I just couldn't take that chance."

On they pressed, reaching the mile in 1min 33.6sec, just 0.4sec off the track record for that distance. Dramatic Gold had long since floundered and Siphon's stride had shortened dramatically.

When Cigar moved to the front he was cheered to the rafters, but he carried the gait of a punch-drunk heavyweight. He briefly responded when Dare And Go, sensibly restrained from the early chase, drew alongside in the home straight. Then he succumbed, paralysed by nothing more sinister than sheer exhaustion.

Mott immediately offered the perfect analysis. "In this game there are a million ways to get beaten but only one way to win — by finishing first. As I watched the race unfold, I knew the first half-mile was too fast. At that point I believe Jerry [Bailey] would have backed off from Siphon, but Dramatic Gold forced the entire issue. It was as much down to human error as any flaw in the horse's ability."

All along Mott has insisted that Cigar's unbroken sequence was a consequence of the six-year-old's excellence rather than desire to crunch numbers. If some questioned his assertion, they had their comeuppance in the trainer's deportment. Amid the mayhem, he was the most composed individual as the carcass was picked clean.

"I don't find any relief at all in the fact that Cigar has been beaten," he ventured. "We played the game wrong and it was somebody else's turn. The streak is over. I realise it was something very special but we have absolutely no excuses. There are other races to aim at." Indeed there are, although none will offer the same opportunity to rewrite equine history.

Del Mar details

Going: fast

PACIFIC CLASSIC (Group I: £387,097: 1m 2f dirt)

1, DARE AND GO (A Solis); 2, Cigar (J Bailey); 3, Siphon (C Nakatani). 6 ran. 3½l, ½l. R Mandella. Pari-mutuel (including $2 stake): $81.20; place (1-2) $7.60, $2.40; show (1-2-3) $2.10, $2.10, $2.10. DF: $18.00. SF 123.40. 1min 59.8sec.

Solis rides high in the saddle on the victor, Dare And Go, in contrast to Bailey who has stooped low on the vanquished Cigar

24 hours.

1 phone number.

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GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

CRICKET

Second Cornhill Test match
11.0, final day of five, 90 overs minimum
HEADINGLEY: England v Pakistan

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Leicestershire
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Gloucestershire
HOVE: Sussex v Derbyshire
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Durham

Tour match
11.0, final day of four
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v South Africa A

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of three): **South Shields CC:** Durham v Middlesex; **Wickford:** Essex v Yorkshire; **Folkestone:** Kent v Gloucestershire; **Liverpool:** Lancashire v Derbyshire; **Oakham School:** Leicestershire v Sussex; **Worksop College:** Nottinghamshire v Hampshire; **Solihull CC:** Warwickshire v Surrey

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two): **Dunstable:** Bedfordshire v Cumbria; **Hertford:** Hertfordshire v Lincolnshire; **Cowley:** Oxfordshire v Hertfordshire; **Penarth:** Wales v Dorset; **Marlborough CC:** Wiltshire v Berkshire.

NAYC UNDER-19 FESTIVAL: Group A: Bedfordshire v Northamptonshire (Histon CC); Cumbria v Yorkshire (King's). **Group B:** Suffolk v Nottinghamshire (Fennors); Huntingdonshire v Warwickshire (Pembroke); **Group C:** Norfolk v Durham (Churchill). Lincolnshire v Lancashire (Downing). **Group D:** Cambridgeshire v Leicestershire (Huntingdon CC). Kent and Cheshire (Saffron Walden CC)

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Barnet v Chelsea XI (7.45), Burnley v Liverpool (7.45), Halifax v Stockport County; Hayes v Brentford, Hednesford v Wolverhampton (7.45), Hyde United v Crewe, Leek v Port Vale; RTM Newcastle v Carlisle, * Rochdale and Diamonds v West Ham United, Shelbourne v Southend (7.45); Stevenage v Millwall, Dover v Tottenham Hotspur (7.45), Morecambe v Manchester United XI

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
GOLF: Irish amateur championship (at Royal County Down)
RACING: Leicester (5.45), Thirsk (6.0), Windsor (2.0); Worcester (2.15)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Exeter v Ipswich (7.30), Reading v Eastbourne (7.30); Wolverhampton v Oxford (7.30).

TOMORROW

CRICKET

NATWEST TROPHY (one day): Semi-finals: **Old Trafford:** Lancashire v Yorkshire; **The Oval:** Surrey v Essex.

FOOTBALL

SCOTTISH COCA-COLA CUP: Second round: Airdrie v Raith, Brechin v Hibernian; Dundee v Dumbarton, East Fife v St Johnstone; Falkirk v Alloa, Greenock Morton v Hamilton, Kilmarnock v Ayr, Motherwell v Alloa (7.45); Partick v Forfar, Queen's Park v Aberdeen, St Mirren v Berwick; Stirling v Dundee United.
PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Aldershot Tn v Millwall (7.45), Altrincham v Huddersfield (7.0), Dagenham and Red v Leyton Orient; Enfield v Bournemouth (7.45); Northampton v Arsenal (7.45); Northwich v Tranmere, Wycombe v Birmingham (7.45), Lancaster v Burnley; Maidenhead v Wouldstone (7.45), Manchester United v Internazionale (8.0)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
GOLF: Irish amateur championship (at Royal County Down)
RACING: Bath (2.0), Southwell (2.15)

WEDNESDAY

CRICKET

TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (first day of three): Leicester: Leicestershire v Pakistanis

FOOTBALL

SCOTTISH COCA-COLA CUP: Second round: Clyde v Celtic (8.0), Clydebank v Rangers; Hearts v Stenhousemuir; Stranraer v Dunfermline
PRE-SEASON MATCH: Boston v Nottingham Forest XI

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
GOLF: Irish amateur championship (at Royal County Down)
RACING: Beverley (2.0), Hamilton Park (6.0), Salisbury (2.15); Sandown Park (5.45)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Long Eaton v Hull (7.30); Poole v Exeter (7.30).

THURSDAY

CRICKET

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of four): **Derby:** Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire; **Bristol:** Gloucestershire v Yorkshire, **Canterbury:** Kent v Somerset; **Old Trafford:** Lancashire v Hampshire; **Lord's:** Middlesex v Worcestershire; **Edgbaston:** Warwickshire v Glamorgan
TOUR MATCH (first day of four): **Chester-le-Street:** TCCB XI v South Africa A (to Aug 18)
SECOND UNDER-19 TEST MATCH (first day of four): **Worcester:** England v New Zealand.

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
CYCLING: Sky Sports grand prix (in Brighton)
EQUESTRIANISM: Derby meeting (at Hickstead)
GOLF: Weetabix women's British Open (at Woburn)
RACING: Beverley (2.0), Newton Abbot (5.50), Salisbury (2.15), Yarmouth (5.35)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Ipswich v Wolverhampton (7.30), Middlesbrough v Scottish Monarchs (7.30), Sheffield v Poole (7.45). Speedway Star Cup: Quarter-final first leg: London v Peterborough (7.30)

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Manchester City v Ipswich (7.45)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 7.30
STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Warrington v Oldham. Second division: Barrow v Chorley

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
EQUESTRIANISM: Derby meeting (at Hickstead)
GOLF: Weetabix women's British Open (at Woburn)
RACING: Catterick Bridge (5.55); Folkestone (2.0), Haydock Park (5.40); Newbury (2.10), Southwell (AW, 2.20)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Bolton Vue v Peterborough (7.30), Hull v Ipswich (7.30), Oxford v Wolverhampton (7.30). Conference League: Arena Essex v Sittingbourne (8.0)

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: * Arsenal v West Ham; Blackburn v Tottenham, Coventry v Nottingham Forest; Derby v Leeds, Everton v Newcastle; Middlesbrough v Liverpool, Sheffield Wednesday v Aston Villa; Sunderland v Leicester; * Wimbledon v Manchester United
NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE First division: Bradford v Portsmouth, Grimsby v Wolverhampton, Huddersfield v Charlton; Norwich v Swindon, Oldham v Stoke, Port Vale v Bolton Queens Park Rangers v Oxford United; Reading v Sheffield United, Southend v Tranmere, West Bromwich v Barnsley. Second division: Blackpool v Chesterfield, Bournemouth v Watford, Bristol Rovers v Peterborough (at Twerton Park, 3.0); Bury v Brentford, Crewe v Stockport, Gillingham v Bristol City; Luton v Burnley; Millwall v Wrexham, Notts County v Preston, Plymouth v York; Walsall v Rotherham. Third division: Brighton v Chester, Cambridge United v Barnet, Colchester v Hartlepool; Doncaster v Carlisle; Fulham v Hereford, Hull v Darlington, Leyton Orient v Scunthorpe, Mansfield v Exeter, Scarborough v Cardiff, Swansea v Rochdale; Torquay v Lincoln, Wigan v Northampton.
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Celtic v Raith; Dundee United v Hibernian; Dunfermline v Rangers; Hearts v Kilmarnock; Motherwell v Aberdeen. First division: East Fife v St Mirren, Greenock Morton v Clydebank; Partick v Dundee; St Johnstone v Falkirk; Stirling v Airdrie. Second division: Ayr v Hamilton; Clyde v Berwick; Dumbarton v Stranraer, Livingston v Queen Of South, Stenhousemuir v Brechin. Third division: Albion v Forfar; Arbroath v Ross County; Caledonian Thistle v Cowdenbeath; Montrose v Alloa; Queen's Park v East Stirling
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Altrincham v Rushden and Diamonds; Hayes v Southport; Hednesford v Dover; Kidderminster v Gateshead; Macclesfield v Kettering, Morecambe v Woking; Northwich v Bath; Slough v Stalybridge, Stevenage v Halifax; Telford v Farnborough, Welling v Bromsgrove

CRICKET

TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERIES (first day of three): **Chelmsford:** Essex v Pakistanis

RUGBY UNION

DUNBLANE CHARITY INTERNATIONAL: Scotland XV v Barbarians (at Murrayfield, 3.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Castleford Tigers v Paris Saint-Germain (5.30), London Broncos v Wigan (6.0)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
EQUESTRIANISM: Derby meeting (at Hickstead)
GOLF: Weetabix women's British Open (at Woburn)
RACING: Bangor (2.25), Lingfield Park (5.15), Newbury (2.0); Ripon (2.15), Stratford (2.20), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.0)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Bradford v Sheffield (7.30), Cradley Heath and Stoke v Middlesbrough (at Stoke, 7.30), Eastbourne v Scottish Monarchs (7.30). Speedway Star Cup: Quarter-final, first leg: Swindon v Exeter (8.0). Conference League: Berwick v Sheffield (7.0).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Southampton v Chelsea (4.0).
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham v Crystal Palace (1.0). Second division: Shrewsbury v Wycombe

CRICKET

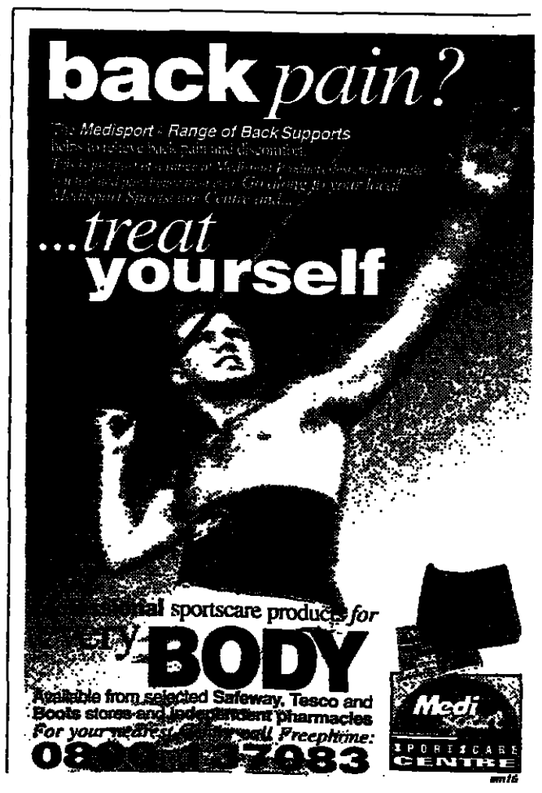
AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE (one day): **Derby:** Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire; **Bristol:** Gloucestershire v Yorkshire, **Canterbury:** Kent v Somerset; **Old Trafford:** Lancashire v Hampshire; **Lord's:** Middlesex v Worcestershire, **Edgbaston:** Warwickshire v Glamorgan

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Bradford Bulls v Halifax Blue Sox (6.0), Leeds v Workington, St Helens v Sheffield Eagles (7.30). First division: Dewsbury v Wakefield (3.30), Hull v Featherstone (6.0); Keighley Cougars v Widnes (3.30); Salford Reds v Batley Bulldogs; Whitehaven v Rochdale (3.30). Second division: Bramley v Doncaster Dragons (5.0), Hull Kingston Rovers v Leigh Centurions (6.30); Hunslet Hawks v Carlisle (3.30), Prescot Panthers v York (3.0); Swinton Lions v South Wales (6.30)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa)
CYCLING: Leeds international.
EQUESTRIANISM: Derby meeting (at Hickstead)
GOLF: Weetabix women's British Open (at Woburn)
MOTORSPORT: International touring car championship (at Silverstone)
MOTORCYCLING: British Superbike championship (at Knockhill)
RACING: Brighton (2.30); Pontefract (2.15)
SPEEDWAY: Individual, Scottish Open riders' championship (at Glasgow, 6.30). Conference League: Buxton v Arena Essex (3.0). Linlithgow v Sheffield (2.30), Sittingbourne v Swindon (2.0).



RACING: BOLGER'S 20-1 CHANCE KEEPS BRITISH JUVENILES AT BAY

Mantovani pulls the strings

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT AT LEOPARDSTOWN

MANTOVANI, the lesser fancied of trainer Jim Bolger's two runners, sprang a 20-1 surprise in the Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes here yesterday, beating the Mick Channon-trained Muchea by two lengths with the favourite, Verglas, just edging out Ocean Ridge for third place.

The winner survived a stewards' inquiry into an incident two furlongs out where Muchea's jockey, Richard Hughes, reported that he had met interference.

Conor Everard, 25, riding only his third winner of the season, guided Mantovani up the rail on the inside of stable companion, Azra, who then made contact with Muchea, but the stewards ruled that Mantovani had not caused the interference.

Channon shrugged it off and said: "I'm not complaining but I thought we were a little unfortunate. We travelled well but the winner got the run of the race. My fellow will probably go for a group race at Baden-Baden in two weeks' time, then the Middle Park Stakes. That will be it for the season."

John Reid had Ocean Ridge, trained by Peter Chapple-Hyam, in the front line throughout but the Prix Robert Papin winner was outpaced from the furlong pole. Reid said: "She just didn't pick up in the last furlong and that might be because the ground was a little soft, but I've no excuses. She ran a good race."

A jubilant Everard, who only found out he was riding Mantovani on Friday, was landing his first pattern race success. He said: "I was niggling the whole way, was never travelling early on but he's as tough as nails."

Bolger was winning the Heinz for the second time and felt the soft ground contributed to his colt's surprising victory. "I knew he'd handle the soft but I've only managed to get him back into serious work in the last three weeks. He got a touch of sore shins after his last run," Bolger said. The trainer added: "I was going to run him in the group three Anglesey Stakes next, but things are altogether different now."

Hughes had better luck in the group three Phoenix Sprint when bringing Daring Destiny from last to first to beat the favourite, Farhana, with two other British-trained horses, Leap For Joy and Woodborough, in third and fourth.

Daring Destiny was Wantage trainer Karl Burke's first winner in Ireland. He said: "It's always been an ambition of mine to win in Ireland, where my parents are from, and to win a group race with Daring Destiny. I always said she would.

"She was injured in a race in Hamburg last year and we worked hard through the winter to get her back," the trainer reported. He added: "She'll go for a group two at Baden-Baden at the end of the month, but I would love to get an invitation for the Hong Kong Bowl over seven furlongs at the end of the year. That would be ideal for her."

Mantovani draws clear to spring a 20-1 surprise at Leopardstown yesterday. Photograph: Caroline Norris

BIG-RACE RESULT

3.20 HEINZ 57 PHOENIX STAKES (2-Y-O: £84,500: 6f)

MANTOVANI b c Treasure Kay - Dream Of Spring (Mrs J Bolger) 9-0 C Everard (20-1) 1

Muchea ch c Shalford - Barcouzine (Albion Investments Ltd) 9-0 R Hughes (10-1) 2

Verglas gr c Highest Honor - Rohaarn (Mrs A J O'Reilly) 9-0 W J Supple (11-8 fav) 3

ALSO RAN: 4 Ocean Ridge (4th), Star Profile (5th), 8 Azra (6th), Raphane (7th), Check The Band (8th), 50 Scottish Mist (9th). 9 ran. NR: Melloray. 2l, hd, sh hd, 1, 1l. J Bolger at Coolcullen, Co Carlow. 1min 13.60sec. Tote: £43.10, £8.20, £2.90, £1.30. DF: £161.90. CSF: £188.16. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Princess Danielle (4.00 Windsor)

Next best: Our Shadee (3.30 Windsor)

Haydock next for Anabaa

BY OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT

ANABAA completed six consecutive victories this year with a fluent success in the £65,876 Prix Maurice de Gheest (6½ furlongs) on good to soft going at Deauville yesterday.

Freddie Head held up the 2-1 on chance this time, and brought him through to take over from Young Ern with a furlong to run. Europe's leading sprinter had 1½ lengths to spare over Miesque's Son, who gained second place by a head from Danehill Dancer.

Of the other British raiders, Iktamal was fourth, Blue Duster fifth, Young Ern seventh and Easy Dollar eighth.

Criquette Head described Anabaa as "one of the best I have trained" and said that his next outing will be in the Haydock Park Sprint Cup, a race which the French won last year with Cherokee Rose, on September 7.

The Rae Guest-trained My Emma (Cash Asmussen) finished a close third behind Sangria and Binary in the £28,986 Prix de Psyche (10f) at Deauville on Saturday. She earnt £5,270.

WINDSOR

THUNDERER

2.00 Dormy Three. 2.30 Charlton Spring. 3.00 CAVIAR ROYALE (nap). 3.30 Talathath. 4.00 Country Lover. 4.30 Spread The Word. 5.00 Galb Alasad.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 TALATHATH (nap). 4.00 Disallowed. 5.00 Don Bosio.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield). C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 STRATFIELDSAYE SELLING STAKES
(£2,304: 1m 3f 135yd) (8 runners)

101 (5) 3-26311 SHABANAZ 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 11-9-13 J Reid 88
102 (7) 45-0563 ARCATURA 17 (Mrs C Welch) C James 4-9-10 M Wigham 83
103 (4) 2300R2 COURBARIL 18 (F,S) (G Steinberg) S Dow 4-9-10 T Quinn 93
104 (8) 340564 DORMY THREE 19 (F,G) (P Slade) R Hodges 6-9-10 S Drowne 96
105 (1) 003-005 PAT'S SPLENDOUR 11 (F) (Mrs P Lunn) H Collingridge 5-9-5 M Rimmer 78
106 (2) 6 LONGANO BAY 17 (A Frangione) J Pearce 3-8-13 G Bardwell –
107 (6) 5-0 BURSUL LADY 5 (Gallagher Materials) Miss B Sanders 3-8-8 S Sanders –
108 (3) 00 FREDDIE'S RECALL 14 (Mrs H Murat) M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-8 A Clark –

BETTING: 5-4 Shabanaz, 5-2 Dormy Three, 6-1 Courbaril, 7-1 Arcatura, 10-1 Pat's Splendour, 16-1 others

1995: SHABANAZ 10-9-13 C Rutter (1-2 fav) W Muir 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

SHABANAZ beat Siesta Time 5l in 5-runner claimer at Brighton (1m 2f, firm). ARCATURA 5l and head 3rd of 11 to Action Jackson in seller at Nottingham (1m 2f, good to firm). COURBARIL 2l 2nd of 9 to Tout de Val in seller at Brighton (1m 4f, good to firm). DORMY THREE 10¾l 4th of 7 to Pistol in race at Bath (1m 3f 144yds, firm). PAT'S SPLENDOUR 4¾l 5th of 9 to Mazilla in handicap at Yarmouth (1m 2f, good). FREDDIE'S RECALL 24l 7th of 10 to Rehaab in auction maiden at Nottingham (1m 2f, good to firm)
Selection: SHABANAZ

2.30 SALAMANCA FILLIES NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,485: 5f 217yd) (12 runners)

201 (7) 231234 WAIT FOR ROSIE 8 (F) (Four Seasons Racing) M Channon 9-7 R Hughes 86
202 (3) 14335 HIL RHAPSODY 25 (BF,G) (A Rhead) B Palling 9-3 T Sprake 94
203 (1) 01 BLUEBELL MISS 77 (D,S) (P Axon) M Ryan 9-2 A Clark 95
204 (2) 21 IRTIFA 21 (CD,F) (H Al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-11 W Carson 95
205 (4) 01 SHERZETTO 17 (D,F) (Cai Colston Hall Stud) J Fanshawe 8-9 D Harrison 88
206 (6) 521 AEGEAN SOUND 12 (D,G) (Theobalds Stud) R Hannon 8-3 Dane O'Neill (3) 89
207 (10) 2062 CHARLTON SPRING 14 (R Hodges) R Hodges 8-1 S Drowne 96
208 (9) 535 CORNCRAKE 18 (J Thomas) B Meehan 7-10 C Rutter 87
209 (12) 43364 MOLLY MUSIC 91 (P Axon) G Margarson 7-10 G Bardwell 84
210 (5) 540 PRESKIDUL 83 (BF) (Mrs W Dunn) D Arbuthnot 7-10 J Quinn 98
211 (8) 0562 SHARAZAMATAZ 20 (D G Cooper) K Ivory 7-10 Martin Dwyer (5) 87
212 (11) 363411 PERFECT BLISS 8 (D,F) (R F Mason) P Evans 7-10 R Ffrench (7) 94

Long handicap: Molly Music 7-9, Preskidul 7-8, Sharazamataz 7-0, Perfect Bliss 6-13

BETTING: 11-4 Sherzetto, 4-1 Wait For Rosie, 9-2 Bluebell Miss, 6-1 Irtifa, 7-1 Aegean Sound, 8-1 Charlton Spring, 10-1 Perfect Bliss, 12-1 others

1995: JUBILEE PLACE 9-3 S Dawes (7-4 fav) T Thomson Jones 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

WAIT FOR ROSIE 2l 4th of 4 to I Can't Remember in handicap at Chester (6f, good to firm). HIL RHAPSODY ¾l 3rd of 7 to Victory Dancer in race over course and distance (good) on penultimate start. BLUEBELL MISS beat Maid By The Fire 1¾l in 7-runner maiden at Leicester (6f, good to soft). IRTIFA beat Colombia neck in 4-runner race over course and distance (good to firm). SHERZETTO beat Princess Topaz 1¾l in 6-runner maiden at Thirsk (6f, firm). AEGEAN SOUND beat Gilding The Lily 2l in 3-runner maiden at Epsom (6f, good). CHARLTON SPRING neck 2nd of 9 to Nightingale Song in seller over course and distance (6f, good). CORNCRAKE 5l 5th of 6 to Big Ben in auction maiden at Sandown (5f, good to firm). PRESKIDUL about 2¾l 4th of 9 to Petite Danseuse in auction maiden at Bath (5f, good to firm) penultimate start. SHARAZAMATAZ 2¾l 2nd of 6 to Silca's My Key in seller at Yarmouth (7f, firm). PERFECT BLISS beat Going For Broke 1¾l in 7-runner handicap at Newcastle (6f, good to firm)
Selection: AEGEAN SOUND (nap)

3.00 COPENHAGEN CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,672: 5f 217yd) (5 runners)

301 (3) 21352 CAVIAR ROYALE 13 (F) (G Teo) R Hannon 9-0 Pat Eddery 88
302 (5) 31 IKDAM 23 (D,F) (H Al-Maktoum) W Hern 8-9 W Carson 90
303 (2) 61 STONE FLOWER 23 (F) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-9 J Reid 98
304 (4) BERT (R Hambro) P Walwyn 8-7 T Quinn –
305 (1) 216 SECRET COMBE 23 (D,BF,G) (Bakewell Bloodstock) P Makin 8-5 S Sanders 96

BETTING: 7-4 Stone Flower, 2-1 Ikdam, 7-2 Caviar Royale, 5-1 Secret Combe, 14-1 Bert

1995: RED NYMPH 8-5 B Thomson (100-30) W Jarvis 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAVIAR ROYALE short head 2nd of 13 to Young Bigwig in handicap at Goodwood (6f, good to firm). IKDAM beat Catechism 5l in 7-runner maiden at Nottingham (6f, good to firm). STONE FLOWER beat Bride's Reprisal 1¾l in 6-runner race at Ayr (5f, good to firm). SECRET COMBE beat River Of Fortune 8l in 10-runner auction maiden at Folkestone (6f, good) penultimate start
Selection: CAVIAR ROYALE

3.30 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND HANDICAP
(£4,502: 1m 67yd) (15 runners)

401 (3) 430151 Q FACTOR 21 (CD,F,S) (H Collis) D Haydn Jones 4-10-0 A Mackay 92
402 (5) 035321 TALATHATH 7 (V,D,F) (Mrs C Rawson) C Dwyer 4-9-10 W R Swinburn 94
403 (14) 1-01521 CAPE PIGEON 14 (V,CD,F,G,S) (E Gadsden) L Cottrell 11-9-9 L Dettori 90
404 (6) 00-0600 DEEVEE 34 (D,F,G,S) (D Turner) C Benstead 7-9-8 T Sprake 89
405 (9) 403230 MR ROUGH 11 (D,F) (R Akehurst) D Morris 5-9-4 A Eddery (7) 94
406 (1) 400-025 JUST HARRY 17 (D,BF,F,G) (M Ryan) M Ryan 5-9-4 A Clark 93
407 (13) 0616/0-5 PROUD BRIGADIER 14 (D,F,G,S) (S Edwards) P Burgoyne 8-8-13 D R McCabe 85
408 (7) 252254 JAAZIM 14 (BF,G) (D Knight) M Madgwick 6-8-11 J Reid 91
409 (11) 346401 OUR SHADEE 8 (V,C,F,G) (K Ivory) K Ivory 8-8-7 C Scally (7) 88
410 (4) 001240- CADDY'S FIRST 98J (G) (Caddy's Four Partnership) S Mellor 4-8-5 M Henry (3) 90
411 (12) 100310 SEA SPOUSE 39 (D,G,S) (Seven Seas Racing) M Blanshard 5-8-2 J Quinn 80
412 (15) 002630 TOMAL 5 (F) (Todly Partnership) R Ingram 4-8-2 A McGlone 94
413 (2) 000 MR HACKER 38 (B Ivens) G Thorner 3-8-0 Dane O'Neill (3) 88
414 (10) 000500 CLASSIC PET 9 (V,F) (Friary Bloodstock Company) C Horgan 4-7-10 N Adams 93
415 (8) 00/000-0 SIR OLIVER 51 (G) (Mrs D Wiseman) B Pearce 7-7-10 Declan O'Shea –

Long handicap: Classic Pet 7-6, Sir Oliver 7-2

BETTING: 4-1 Q Factor, 5-1 Cape Pigeon, 6-1 Talathath, 7-1 Deevee, Our Shadee, 8-1 Just Harry, 10-1 Sea Spouse, Jaazim, 12-1 others

1995: MULLITOVER 5-9-6 M Roberts (10-1) M Heaton-Ellis 21 ran

FORM FOCUS

Q FACTOR beat Blessed Spirit head in 12-runner handicap over course and distance (good to firm). TALATHATH beat Fort Knox 2l in 5-runner Bath handicap (1m, firm). CAPE PIGEON beat Mellottie 7l in 12-runner course and distance claimer (good) with PROUD BRIGADIER (13lb better off) 5l 5th. MR ROUGH best recent effort short head 2nd of 11 to Wild Palm in Yarmouth handicap (1m, good to firm) with TALATHATH (5lb worse off) short head 3rd. JUST HARRY 2l 2nd of 7 to Mezzoramio in Leicester handicap (7f, good to firm) penultimate start. OUR SHADEE beat Flag Fen neck in 15-runner Lingfield handicap (7f 140yd, good to firm). SEA SPOUSE beat Farmost 2¼l in 13-runner Southwell handicap (AW, 7f). TOMAL 1¾l 3rd of 18 to Thatchmaster in Sandown seller (1m, good to firm) penultimate start
Selection: SEA SPOUSE

4.00 SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE SERIES HANDICAP
(£2,965: 1m 2f 7yd) (11 runners)

501 (6) 00214-2 LOKI 9 (D,BF,F,G,S) (M Wall) G Lewis 6-10-0 E Ahern (7) 90
502 (8) 601320 SHARP CONSUL 23 (D,S) (Mrs D Blackburn) H Candy 4-9-10 L James (7) 95
503 (2) 003053 VOLA VIA 8 (F) (G Sman) I Balding 3-9-8 Martin Dwyer 97
504 (11) 004100 COUNTRY LOVER 23 (V,D,F,G,S) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-4 Aimee Cook 96
505 (7) 6050 FAR DAWN 11 (P Wiegand) G Harwood 3-9-3 Gaye Harwood (3) 89
506 (5) 003516 DISALLOWED 9 (F) (K Ratcliffe) M Bell 3-9-0 G Faulkner 95
507 (1) 00-605 IRISH KINSMAN 43 (P Wills) P Walwyn 3-8-11 R Havlin 88
508 (10) 200532 PRINCESS DANIELLE 14 (D,F,S) (Mrs M Wickham) W Muir 4-8-9 M Henry 88
509 (3) 135343 HARVEY WHITE 11 (D,F) (Harvey White Partnership) J Pearce 4-8-7 R Ffrench (5) 97
510 (9) 2140-00 PERSIAN CONQUEST 72 (B,D,G) (C Adams) R Ingram 4-8-7 P P Murphy 89
511 (4) 3000 NOBLE LORD 9 (The Old Timers Partnership) R Buckler 3-8-6 S Crawford (7) 95

BETTING: 3-1 Loki, 4-1 Vola Via, 9-2 Sharp Consul, 6-1 Princess Danielle, 7-1 Disallowed, 8-1 Country Lover, Harvey White, 10-1 others

1995: HADABET 3-8-1 A Whelan (8-1) Miss J Doyle 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

LOKI 1¼l 2nd of 5 to Al Liberty in claimer at Goodwood (1m, good to firm). SHARP CONSUL 3¾l 2nd of 8 to Routontaine in handicap at Chepstow (1m 2f, good to firm) penultimate start. VOLA VIA 1¾l 3rd of 7 to Another Time in Lingfield handicap (1m 2f, good to firm). COUNTRY LOVER best recent effort beat Asking For Kings 4l in 8-runner Goodwood claimer (1m 2f, good to soft). DISALLOWED beat King Of Sparta short head in Ripon auction maiden (1m 1f, good to firm) penultimate start. PRINCESS DANIELLE 1¾l 2nd of 14 in course and distance handicap (1m 2f, good). HARVEY WHITE 3¾l 3rd of 18 to Koathary in Goodwood handicap (1m 1f, good to firm) with FAER DAWN (4lb better off) 15l 10th
Selection: HARVEY WHITE

4.30 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP
(Gentleman amateurs: £3,079: 1m 3f 135yd) (14 runners)

601 (8) 5061 ARTIC BAY 30 (F) (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 4-12-0 J Durkan 94
602 (12) 0-0050 REGAL EAGLE 46 (J Smith) I Balding 3-11-7 A Balding 91
603 (6) 66-0063 GLOBAL DANCER 14 (F,G) (Cornish Arms) S Dow 5-11-5 S Fetherstonhaugh (4) 93
604 (14) 048500 MANABAR 49 (G) (K Raynes) M Polglase 4-11-3 M Mannish (4) 96
605 (4) 020-002 SPREAD THE WORD 16 (V) (J Boswell) L Cottrell 4-11-2 L Jefford (4) 94
606 (9) 4-54105 SUPER SERENADE 16 (F,G) (J Thatcher) G Balding 7-11-0 J Thatcher (4) 88
607 (13) 3000 RED VIPER 16 (R Gardner-Brown) N Lampard 4-10-12 L Baker (4) –
608 (2) 50-0050 BRAYDON FOREST 26 (Mrs J Melbourne) C Drew 4-10-8 R Thornton (4) 95
609 (11) 004304- GRAND APPLAUSE 248J (M Lewin) M Usher 6-10-5 M Salaman (4) 91
610 (1) /45020/ MISTY VIEW 706 (F,G) (M Pascall) J White 7-10-5 J Crowley (4) –
611 (5) 1/66-640 GOLDEN HADEER 4 (S) (M Ryan) M Ryan 5-10-3 S Lavallin (4) 92
612 (3) 00-0043 FERN'S GOVERNOR 10 (Fern Components) W Musson 4-10-2 T McCarthy 92
613 (10) 0060/04 HAYDOWN 16 (E Phillips) C Nash 4-9-11 P Phillips (4) 86
614 (7) 00/0-000 LITTLE LUKE 30 (CD,G) (Mrs B Armstrong) P Butler 5-9-7 I Mongan (4) 97

BETTING: 7-2 Fern's Governor, 9-2 Spread The Word, 5-1 Artic Bay, 6-1 Super Serenade, 8-1 Global Dancer, Regal Eagle, 10-1 others

1995: FATHER DAN 6-11-2 M Armytage (100-30) Miss G Kelleway 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARTIC BAY beat General Mouktar ¾l in 13-runner handicap at Salisbury (1m 4f, good to firm). REGAL EAGLE 1¾l 5th of 10 to Temptress in handicap at Newbury (1m 4f, good to firm). SPREAD THE WORD 1¾l 2nd of 19 to Augustan in handicap at Chepstow (1m 4f, good to firm) with GOLDEN HADEER (1lb better off) 1¾l 4th. SUPER SERENADE 3¼l 5th of 11 to Great Bear in handicap at Newcastle (1m, good to firm). FERN'S GOVERNOR 4¾l 3rd of 14 to Gold Desire in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). HAYDOWN 13¾l 4th of 5 to Saleemah in handicap at Lingfield (7f 140yd, firm)
Selection: FERN'S GOVERNOR

5.00 WELLINGTON MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,909: 1m 67yd) (18 runners)

1 (14) 0 RADICAL EXCEPTION 14 (M T Racing Syndicate) D Williams 6-9-7 N Adams –
2 (5) 00- PRESS AGAIN 413 (J Sawyer) P Hayward 4-9-2 A McGlone –
3 (12) 06205 DON BOSIO 38 (Sultan Al Kabeer) M Stoute 3-9-0 W R Swinburn 88
4 (8) PD ENDAXI SAM 22 (Stephen J Fletcher) R Ingram 3-9-0 M Henry (3) –
5 (13) GALB ALASAD (Sheikh A Al-Maktoum) J Gosden 3-9-0 L Dettori –
6 (17) 2 GRAND MUSICA 9 (Mach 3 Racing) I Balding 3-9-0 Martin Dwyer (5) 91
7 (4) 00 JADES SHADOW 11 (W Wood) J Bridger 3-9-0 G Faulkner (7) –
8 (9) 244522 MELT THE CLOUDS 22 (Mrs G Godfrey) P Harris 3-9-0 G Hind 89
9 (3) 0 MONTE FELICE 9 (Lady Harrison) G Harwood 3-9-0 A Clark –
10 (18) 0 SOVEREIGN CREST 9 (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 3-9-0 Paul Eddery –
11 (1) 4 TAKE NOTICE 9 (K Abdulla) G Harwood 3-9-0 Pat Eddery 76
12 (11) THOR'S PHANTOM (Midweek Racing) M Usher 3-9-0 R Perham –
13 (15) BUNTY BAGSHAW (Mrs K J Buckley) J Spearing 3-8-9 T Sprake –
14 (16) 00 CHESTEINE 37 (R Kershaw) P Makin 3-8-9 R Havlin (5) –
15 (2) 00 NAWAJI 83 (T Al-Mazeedi) W Muir 3-8-9 J Reid –
16 (10) 0 SAMORELLE 9 (M Ryan) M Ryan 3-8-9 A McCarthy (7) –
17 (6) SULAWESI (J Slade) W Jarvis 3-8-9 B Thomson –
18 (7) 5-4 YAMUNA 22 (BF) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 3-8-9 W Ryan 83

BETTING: 11-4 Yamuna, 4-1 Grand Musica, 9-2 Don Bosio, 6-1 Galb Alasad, 8-1 Melt The Clouds, 10-1 Take Notice, 12-1 Sulawesi, 14-1 others

1995: MACKOOK 3-9-0 W R Swinburn (4-9 fav) M Stoute 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

DON BOSIO 2¾l 5th of 12 to Green Barries in handicap at Sandown (7f, good to firm). GRAND MUSICA 1¾l 2nd of 17 to Civil Liberty in maiden over course and distance (good to firm) with TAKE NOTICE 11l 4th, SAMORELLE 4¾l 9th and SOVEREIGN CREST 11l 10th. MELT THE CLOUDS 1¾l 2nd of 9 to Mihandis in maiden at Yarmouth (7f, firm) with YAMUNA 2¾l 4th and ENDAXI SAM 13¾l 8th. YAMUNA about 5l 5th of 11 to Amazing Bay in maiden at Newbury (6f, good to firm) penultimate start
Selection: DON BOSIO

RAPID RACELINE COMMENTARY RESULTS 0930 168+ WINDSOR 101 201 WORCESTER 102 202 THIRSK 103 203 LEICESTER 104 204 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

WINDSOR SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 13 winners from 40 runners, 32.5%; M Stoute, 9 from 43, 20.9%; R Hannon, 49 from 254, 19.3%; D Arbuthnot, 5 from 27, 18.5%; P Walwyn, 5 from 28, 17.9%; Lord Huntingdon, 10 from 59, 16.9%; H Candy, 7 from 43, 16.3%.

JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery, 45 winners from 206 rides, 21.8%; L Dettori, 24 from 132, 18.2%; J Reid, 27 from 167, 16.2%; Martin Dwyer, 3 from 19, 15.8%; W Ryan, 8 from 52, 15.4%; T Quinn, 21 from 163, 12.9%; W Carson, 13 from 107, 12.1%.

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

5.45 Fair Relation. 6.15 Shandana. 6.45 Eurobox Boy. 7.15 Sharpical. 7.45 Morning Surprise. 8.15 Parsa.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

5.45 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND MENPHYS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,371: 7f 9yd) (14 runners)

1 (10) ARRIVING [illegible] M Hills –
2 (1) ATTITRE C [illegible] 8-11 B Doyle –
3 (6) 4 BABY JANE 65 [illegible] 8-11 M Wigham 89
4 (5) 6 BESTELINA 14 C Cosgrove 8-11 M Rimmer 89
5 (2) 32 BLUE HOPPER 19 [illegible] 8-11 C Rutter 66
6 (4) CHRISTMAS ROSE [illegible] Jones 8-11 G Carter –
7 (7) 5 CIRO'S PEARL 14 [illegible] 8-11 P Robinson 91
8 (8) CROWN OF LIGHT [illegible] 8-11 R Cochrane –
9 (3) FAIR RELATION P Cole 8-11 T Quinn –
10 (13) HEAVENLY DANCER [illegible] 8-11 G Duffield –
11 (11) 50 MARSELINA 51 [illegible] 8-11 Kim Tinkler 75
12 (9) 0 NORTHERN GIRL 125 [illegible] 8-11 M Tebbutt –
13 (14) 0 PETREL 49 Lord Huntingdon 8-11 D Harrison 80
14 (12) 0 SCHESANDRA 24 M Fetherston-Godley 8-11 W J O'Connor 88

4-1 Crown Of Light, 5-1 Fair Relation, Baby Jane, Christmas Rose, 6-1 Blue Hopper, 7-1 Heavenly Dancer, 10-1 others

6.15 LANGHAM SELLING NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £2,490: 5f 218yd) (8)

1 (7) 1243 EAGER TO PLEASE 16 (B,D,BF,G) J Berry 9-7 G Carter 95
2 (6) 2104 DON'T FORGET SHOKA 14 (D,S) J Moore 9-4 W J O'Connor 87
3 (2) 4360 DANCING STAR 2 [illegible] 9-1 J F Egan 91
4 (1) 6252 JINGOIST 16 (B) [illegible] 9-2 B Doyle 93
5 (4) 4204 SHANDANA 17 (V) [illegible] 9-0 R Mullen (7) 88
6 (3) 0366 SILVER RAJ 21 (B) [illegible] 8-13 J Quinn 88
7 (5) 0023 SUPER SCRAVELS 14 [illegible] 8-5 M Fenton 94
8 (8) 546 VICKYS DOUBLE 25 [illegible] 8-11 C Adamson (5) 90

3-1 Jingoist, 9-2 Eager To Please, 4-1 Shandana, 6-1 Vickys Double, 10-1 Don't Forget Shoka, 12-1 Super Scravels, 14-1 others

6.45 INSTITUTE OF INSURANCE BROKERS HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,393: 1m 8yd) (15)

1 (10) 0203 BALLPOINT 11 [illegible] 9-7 Dane O'Neill (3) 94
2 (5) 0010 LE TETEU 17 (D,G) [illegible] 9-4 N Day 92
3 (3) 0166 BANDIT GIRL 11 (F) [illegible] 9-2 T Quinn 92
4 (6) 3160 MISTER WOODSTICK 22 (D,F) [illegible] 8-10 P Robinson 90
5 (7) 5005 THEATRE MAGIC 21 (G) [illegible] 8-9 D McKeown 89
6 (11) 0004 BEAUCHAMP KATE 25 [illegible] 8-7 C Rutter 90
7 (14) 0434 NAMHAL 11 (B) [illegible] 8-5 D Harrison 97
8 (1) 2561 EUROBOX BOY 24 (D,F) [illegible] 8-4 S Drowne 97
9 (2) 0062 NORTHERN JUDGE 2 [illegible] 8-3 M Rimmer 98
10 (4) 600 SQUARE MILE MISS 22 [illegible] 8-1 F Norton 88
11 (15) 4160 ORIOLE 14 (F,S) [illegible] 8-0 Kim Tinkler 90
12 (9) 0000 PRINCE ZIZIM 9 (B) [illegible] 7-10 R Mullen (7) 96
13 (12) 4500 ZDENKA 12 [illegible] 7-12 J Quinn 92
14 (13) 306 SAFA DANCER 37 [illegible] 7-10 A Mackay 93
15 (8) 2005 PERSEPHONE 12 (V) I Campbell 7-10 G Bardwell 97

5-1 Eurobox Boy, 6-1 Bandit Girl, 7-1 Ballpoint, Theatre Magic, 8-1 Mister Woodstick, Zdenka, Northern Judge, 10-1 others

7.15 LUMBERS GRANDE CLASSIQUE HANDICAP — SKY
(£4,093: 1m 1f 218yd) (10)

1 (8) 5306 RIPARIUS 23 (S,C,G,S) H Candy 5-10-0 C Rutter 95
2 (5) 006- PEUTETRE 121 (G) F Jordan 4-9-13 D Harrison 90
3 (3) 1321 SHARPICAL 10 (D,F,G) M Prescott 4-9-11 G Duffield 88
4 (4) 0060 JOHN-T 17 J Dunlop 3-9-5 T Quinn 89
5 (2) 2-32 DEGREE 34 H Cecil 3-9-3 Pat Eddery 90
6 (10) 0500 RIVAL BID 8 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 9-9-3 C Teague (3) 94
7 (9) 5400 MYFONTAINE 21 (D,F,G,S) K Ivory 9-9-2 C Scally (7) 98
8 (7) 2200 GET AWAY WITH IT 37 M Channon 3-9-2 R Cochrane 95
9 (6) 4-54 A-AASEM 22 H Thomson Jones 3-8-13 G Carter 96
10 (1) 00-0 IVAN THE TERRIBLE 16 (CD,G,S) B Ellison 8-7-10 J Quinn 93

7-4 Degree, 5-2 Sharpical, 3-1 A-Aasem, 6-1 Get Away With It, 12-1 John-T, 14-1 Peutetre, Riparius, 16-1 others

7.45 TRAVELSPHERE CLAIMING STAKES — SKY
(3-Y-O: £3,071: 7f 9yd) (13)

1 (3) 06 ROYAL INTRUSION 11 R Hodges 9-10 S Drowne –
2 (9) 3032 IVORY'S GRAB HIRE 6 (B,D,F) K Ivory 9-7 C Scally (7) 84
3 (5) 0400 SCATHEBURY 8 (V,G) K Burke 9-1 T Quinn 85
4 (2) 6053 HONORABLE ESTATE 14 (D,F) R Hannon 8-13 Dane O'Neill (3) 98
5 (12) 1006 FORECAST 26 (V,F) J Wharton 8-12 P Robinson 89
6 (6) 0003 BELLA'S LEGACY 11 R Hodges 8-7 B Doyle 92
7 (4) 4035 LACHESIS 14 R Hollinshead 8-7 W Ryan 88
8 (11) 5220 MORNING SURPRISE 51 (G) A Jarvis 8-7 C Carver (7) 93
9 (8) 0004 DUET 19 J King 8-4 A Mackay 71
10 (10) -430 HOLLOWAY MELODY 94 B McMahon 8-4 A McCarthy (7) 70
11 (7) SIBERIAN ROSE J Wharton 8-4 C Teague (3) –
12 (13) 0600 DARE BUDGIE 9 (V) E Incisa 8-1 Kim Tinkler –
13 (1) 0004 POWER PRINCESS 11 J Pickering 8-1 J F Egan 85

5-1 Lachesis, 6-1 Morning Surprise, Bella's Legacy, 7-1 Ivory's Grab Hire, Honorable Estate, 8-1 Scathebury, Forecast, 10-1 others

8.15 EVANS OF LEICESTER MERCEDES-BENZ LIMITED STAKES — SKY
(3-Y-O: £2,881: 1m 3f) (11)

1 (6) 4122 BLENHEIM TERRACE 9 (BF,G) C Booth 8-13 J Quinn 91
2 (7) 2263 DANCING CAVALIER 39 (G) R Hollinshead 8-13 D Griffiths (5) 88
3 (11) 2006 GO-GO-POWER-RANGER 6 (D,S) B Ellison 8-13 J Tate 87
4 (10) 0000 BACKWOODS 78 W Brisbourne 8-11 G Duffield 86
5 (8) 4200 COMPASS POINTER 14 J Eustace 8-11 M Tebbutt 91
6 (9) 004 DEVIL'S DANCE 42 M Stoute 8-11 R Cochrane 90
7 (1) 440 ROYAL EXPOSE 14 R Hannon 8-11 Dane O'Neill (3) 89
8 (5) 2212 LOS ALAMOS 6 (G) C Thornton 8-10 D McKeown 91
9 (3) 1223 PARSA 11 (C,F) J Dunlop 8-10 Pat Eddery 94
10 (2) 022 AGDISTIS 14 (BF) H Thomson Jones 8-8 G Carter 98
11 (4) 4400 SWEETNESS HERSELF 21 M Ryan 8-8 M Baird (5) 96

4-1 Agdistis, 9-2 Los Alamos, 5-1 Blenheim Terrace, Parsa, 6-1 Dancing Cavalier, Devil's Dance, 7-1 Sweetness Herself, 10-1 others

THIRSK

THUNDERER

6.00 Allinson's Mate. 6.30 Royal Ceilidh. 7.00 Cambridge Ball. 7.30 Sudden Spin. 8.00 Toronto. 8.30 U-No-Harry.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 7.00 CAMBRIDGE BALL.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F, HIGH BEST SIS

6.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES APPRENTICE SELLING HANDICAP
(£2,564: 1m) (12 runners)

1 3440 FLASHY'S SON 44 (F,G) F Murphy 8-9-12 D Hayden (6) 2
2 3604 ALLINSON'S MATE 6 (B,D,F,G) T Barron 8-9-10 C Scudder (4) 8
3 4024 MISS ZANZIBAR 3 (D,F) R Fahey 4-9-3 Claire West (4) 7
4 6262 EURO SCEPTIC 7 (B,D,F,G) T Easterby 4-9-0 P Doe (4) 10
5 -800 CORONA GOLD 6 (B,D,G) J Fitzgerald 6-8-8 J Bramhill 5
6 000- MOOFAJI 185J F Watson 5-8-7 C Lowther (4) 11
7 5200 PERCY PARROT 4 (V,D,F) R Whitaker 4-8-6 P Fredericks (4) 12
8 0230 ABSOLUTE RULER 54 (B) J L Harris 5-8-6 J Edmunds 1
9 2450 RAINBOWS RHAPSODY 21 D Chapman 5-8-3 K Sked 6
10 0605 DOUBLE GLOW 6 (F,G) N Bycroft 4-7-11 Angela Gallimore 3
11 4000 OHNONOTAGAIN 25 B Murray 4-7-10 J Dennis 9
12 -000 LADY PLOY 11 Miss L Siddall 4-7-10 T Siddall (4) 4

11-4 Euro Sceptic, 3-1 Miss Zanzibar, 4-1 Allinson's Mate, 6-1 Double Glow, 7-1 Flashy's Son, 8-1 Absolute Ruler, 10-1 others

6.30 CHEQUE BOOK HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,910: 1m) (10)

1 3441 JERRY CUTRONA 8 (F) N Callaghan 9-7 K Fallon 5
2 6136 ROYAL CEILIDH 54 (CD,F,G) Denys Smith 9-5 J Fortune 2
3 4223 TART 9 J Fanshawe 9-4 N Varley (3) 3
4 60-2 FIRLE PHANTASY 17 P Calver 9-0 M Birch 9
5 0062 ERIC'S BETT 37 (B,D,G) F Murphy 8-9 J Weaver 8
6 004 ROAD RACER 10 Mrs J Ramsden 8-4 M Deering 1
7 3030 LUCKY BEA 27 (D,G) M W Easterby 8-4 Dale Gibson 7
8 0050 TOO HASTY 6 (B,F) T Easterby 7-12 J Lowe 10
9 63-4 FUNKY 14 D Nicholls 7-11 J Bramhill (7) 4
10 -000 POLISH LADY 18 C Murray 7-10 N Carlisle 6

3-1 Jerry Cutrona, 4-1 Firle Phantasy, 9-2 Tart, 5-1 Eric's Bett, 6-1 Funky, 5-1 Royal Ceilidh, 10-1 others

7.00 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,318: 7f) (11)

1 64 LORD DISCORD 37 T Easterby 8-5 M Birch 3
2 BLOOMING AMAZING J Eyre 8-5 K Fallon 1
3 0662 IMPERIAL OR METRIC 21 J Berry 8-5 J Carroll 4
4 00 SHAKEN UP 33 Mrs D Haine 8-5 A Garth 10
5 065 SMOKE'N'JO 21 M W Easterby 8-5 G Parkin (5) 7
6 3523 DANEHILL PRINCESS 8 (V) P Hollinshead 8-4 F Lynch (3) 8
7 04 FLOWER HILL LAD 19 D Cosgrove 8-3 J Stack 2
8 64 TOM PLADDEY 33 R Bastiman 8-3 Dale Gibson 5
9 34 VAGABOND CHANTEUSE 16 (BF) T Etherington 8-2 L Charnock 6
10 2 CAMBRIDGE BALL 13 M Johnston 8-1 T Williams 9
11 56 EASTERN FIREDRAGON 42 T Easterby 8-0 J Lowe 11

2-1 Cambridge Ball, 4-1 Vagabond Chanteuse, 5-1 Imperial Or Metric, 6-1 Danehill Princess, 7-1 Flower Hill Lad, 10-1 others

7.30 UNION TRUCKS FOR SCANIA HANDICAP — SKY
(£3,175: 2m) (11)

1 4004 ANGLESEY SEA VIEW 11 (D,G) A Bailey 7-10-0 J Fortune 6
2 1026 UNCLE DOUG 33 (CD,F,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-10 K Darley 11
3 00-6 DEAUVILLE DANCER 24 D Nicholls 4-9-5 Alex Greaves 9
4 /00 FRONTIER FLIGHT 11 (G) Miss L Siddall 6-9-3 D Pears (3) 1
5 4060 ELA MAN HOWA 10 (F,G) A Bailey 5-9-3 S Sanders 2
6 6121 SHIRLEY SUE 5 (D,F,G) M Johnston 3-9-2 (4ex) J Weaver 7
7 5140 SUDDEN SPIN 6 (D,F,G) J Norton 6-9-1 K Fallon 4
8 4505 AMIARGE 5 (B,D,F) M Brittain 6-9-0 D Wright (3) 5
9 0000 KASHANA 6 W Storey 4-8-8 J Fanning 3
10 3225 SHARP SENSATION 6 (G) D Barker 6-8-8 J Bramhill (7) 10
11 0-06 HALLIKELD 17 T Etherington 3-7-10 L Charnock 8

2-1 Shirley Sue, 7-2 Uncle Doug, 5-1 Amiarge, 6-1 Sudden Spin, 7-1 others

8.00 SCANIA 1996 TRUCK OF THE YEAR MAIDEN STAKES — SKY
(2-Y-O: £3,357: 5f) (12)

1 55 CAIRN DHU 7 Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 K Fallon 8
2 FLY ME HOME B McMahon 9-0 K Darley 1
3 00 GROVEFAIR VENTURE 9 B Meehan 9-0 S Sanders 5
4 43 JEDI KNIGHT 9 M W Easterby 9-0 G Parkin (5) 3
5 5026 MAZIL 8 T Easterby 9-0 M Birch 7
6 06 PRINCE DOME 18 M Wane 9-0 J Fortune 10
7 0 STYLE DANCER 98 R Whitaker 9-0 J Fanning 12
8 62 TORONTO 17 J Berry 9-0 J Carroll 9
9 00 WILLIAM'S WELL 7 M W Easterby 9-0 Dale Gibson 4
10 32 BALLADOOLE BAJAN 9 (BF) M Johnston 8-9 J Weaver 6
11 3 MARTINE 26 A Bailey 8-9 D Wright (3) 2
12 2 SYLVAN DANCER 14 C Wall 8-9 W Woods 11

5-2 Toronto, 7-2 Martine, 4-1 Sylvan Dancer, 6-1 Jedi Knight, 8-1 others

8.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £4,027: 5f) (11)

1 4445 DANDE FLYER 10 (B,D,F,G) D Arbuthnot 9-7 Darren Moffatt (3) 3
2 3-01 SABAAH ELFULL 14 (D,F) A Stewart 9-6 S Whitworth 2
3 1314 U-NO-HARRY 11 (C,D,F) R Hollinshead 9-5 F Lynch (3) 7
4 0645 MISS BIGWIG 73 (D,F,S) J Berry 9-3 J Carroll 11
5 5404 COMIC FANTASY 4 (B,D,F) Martyn Wane 9-3 N Connorton 9
6 0543 MYTTONS MISTAKE 11 (D,F) A Bailey 9-3 D Wright (3) 4
7 0104 CHALICE 12 (D,G) J Balding 8-13 J Edmunds (7) 1
8 0312 LITERARY SOCIETY 10 (D,F) J Toller 8-12 S Sanders 5
9 0151 BEE HEALTH BOY 11 (B,F,S) M W Easterby 8-12 G Parkin (5) 8
10 0013 OATEY 7 (D,BF,F) Mrs J Ramsden 8-5 K Fallon 10
11 2134 CAMIONNEUR 2 (B,BF,F) T Easterby 7-11 J Lowe 6

3-1 Sabaah Elfull, 5-1 Literary Society, 6-1 Bee Health Boy, Miss Bigwig, 7-1 U-No-Harry, Oatey, 8-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Fanshawe, 6 winners from 21 runners, 28.6%; C Wall, 3 from 11, 27.3%; B McMahon, 5 from 24, 20.8%; M Johnston, 16 from 98, 16.3%; Mrs J Ramsden, 9 from 64, 14.1%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 22 winners from 106 rides, 20.8%; K Fallon, 17 from 111, 15.3%; D Pears, 5 from 33, 15.2%; W Woods, 3 from 22, 13.6%; J Stack, 5 from 38, 13.2%.

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

2.15 Miss Souter. 2.45 Sticky Money. 3.15 Coast Along. 3.45 Circus Colours. 4.15 Scaraben. 4.45 Last Laugh.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

2.15 ENIGMA CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,849: 3m) (4 runners)

1 4-65 CROMABOO CROWN 16F (G) P Bevan 5-11-10 T J Murphy
2 505- RAMPANT ROSIE 75 (V) G Richards 8-11-4 G Cahill
3 6-45 MISS SOUTER 30 (F,S) H Howe 7-11-3 Guy Lewis
4 400- PENIARTH 236 (F) R Price 10-10-6 B Fenton

5-4 Rampant Rosie, 6-4 Miss Souter, 3-1 Cromaboo Crown, 8-1 Peniarth

2.45 POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE NOVICES CHASE
(£3,101: 2m 7f) (3)

1 -611 STICKY MONEY 10 (F,S) M Pipe 8-11-7 D Bridgwater
2 -522 PHARRAGO 10 (S) D Burchell 7-10-12 D J Burchell
3 6-3 GHEDI 9 M Muggeridge 5-10-7 B Powell

1-3 Sticky Money, 9-4 Pharrago, 16-1 Ghedi

3.15 NIMROD HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,268: 2m 4f) (5)

1 2/3 FIELDRIDGE 22 (G) M Muggeridge 7-12-0 B Powell
2 31-2 CLEAN EDGE 40 (F) J Mackie 4-11-5 E Husband (3)
3 -463 FORGETFUL 10 (F,G) D Burchell 7-11-3 D J Burchell
4 4-51 COAST ALONG 25 (CD,F,G,S) P Bevan 4-11-2 W Worthington
5 -043 FIRST CRACK 10 (D,F,G,S) F Jordan 11-10-9 S Wynne

7-4 Clean Edge, 9-4 Fieldridge, 4-1 Coast Along, 9-2 First Crack, 8-1 Forgetful

3.45 PLUMB CENTER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,468: 2m) (5)

1 142- ROYAL THIMBLE 4F (F) N Chance 5-11-10 R Johnson
2 0-63 CIRCUS COLOURS 12 (D,F) J Jenkins 6-11-8 A Maguire
3 3-22 SARMATIAN 13F (D,F) M Hammond 5-11-6 R Garritty
4 -123 NIGHT TIME 7 (CD,F) F Jordan 4-10-7 Mr G Shenkin (7)
5 5312 LANCER 2 (F) R Juckes 4-10-7 W Marston

2-1 Royal Thimble, 9-4 Sarmatian, 4-1 Lancer, 6-1 Night Time, 8-1 Circus Colours

4.15 GERONTIUS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,877: 2m) (5)

1 004/ SCARABEN 8F (G,S) S Kettlewell 8-11-10 R Johnson
2 2P/6 CAXTON 16 (F,S) J White 9-11-9 B Fenton
3 -P21 WILLIE MAKEIT 25 (CD,F) R Phillips 6-11-6 J Culloty (3)
4 40-5 ASTOUNDED 20 D Wintle 9-11-4 D Walsh (3)
5 /34- HARROW WAY 104 L Wells 6-10-11 S McNeill

7-4 Scaraben, 9-4 Caxton, 3-1 Willie Makeit, 7-1 Harrow Way, 8-1 Astounded

4.45 CHANSON MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,390: 2m) (6)

1 -116 REGAL GEM 25 (BF,F,G) C Barwell 5-10-10 B Fenton
2 00-P SISTER JIM 84 R Price 6-10-10 J R Kavanagh
3 6-5 BURNT SIENNA 9 (V) J Moore 4-10-7 W McFarland
4 23 FORGOTTEN EMPRESS 9 S Kettlewell 4-10-7 R Johnson
5 63- LAST LAUGH 256 K Bailey 4-10-7 T J Murphy
6 SADLER'S PEARL 388F R Phillips 4-10-7 B Powell

7-4 Last Laugh, 9-4 Regal Gem, 11-4 Forgotten Empress, 7-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

WORCESTER: Trainers: C Barwell, 8 winners from 31 runners, 25.8%; M Pipe, 30 from 120, 25.0%; K Bailey, 20 from 91, 22.0%; R Price, 5 from 32, 15.6%. Jockeys: J Culloty, 4 winners from 19 rides, 21.1%; N Williamson, 20 from 112, 17.9%; A Maguire, 22 from 135, 16.3%; D Bridgwater, 21 from 136, 15.4%.

LEICESTER: Trainers: H Cecil, 19 winners from 75 runners, 25.3%; M Stoute, 13 from 62, 21.0%; J Dunlop, 22 from 119, 18.5%; H Thomson Jones, 4 from 24, 16.7%. Jockeys: Pat Eddery, 31 winners from 142 rides, 21.8%; Dane O'Neill, 4 from 28, 14.3%; Paul Eddery, 11 from 92, 12.0%; T Quinn, 17 from 146, 11.6%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Leicester: 6.15 Shandana, Eager To Please. 6.45 Prince Zizim. 7.45 Forecast. Thirsk: 6.30 Too Hasty. 8.30 Dande Flyer. Worcester: 2.15 Rampant Rosie. 4.45 Burnt Sienna.

FLAT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Rides since win	Level stake
M Johnston	78	83	63	4	-86.22
R Hannon	70	76	55	1	-211.20
J Berry	67	62	55	3	-69.49
H Cecil	63	34	35	2	-21.80

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stake
Pat Eddery	129	85	72	1	-29.28
T Quinn	108	80	77	18	+8.44
K Fallon	103	87	94	4	-65.06
J Weaver	101	98	73	2	-59.95

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S SEVEN MEETINGS

Haydock Park

Going: good to firm

2.15 (5f) 1, Snap Crackle Pop (Paul Eddery, 100-30); 2, Loch-Hurn Lady (20-1); 3, Fruitana (11-2). Hoh Dancer 13-8 fav. 9 ran. Nk, 1¼l. R Johnson Houghton. Tote: £3.90; £1.40, £3.60, £1.50. DF: £47.50. Trio: £46.30. CSF: £55.47.

2.45 (1m 30yd) 1, Elmi Elmak (O Urbina, 11-4); 2, Inridab (9-4 fav); 3, Options Open (16-1). 9 ran. Sh hd, 6l. L Cumani. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £1.40, £3.80. DF: £3.90. Trio: £37.40. CSF: £9.62. Tricast: £77.96.

3.15 (1m 2f 120yd) 1, Tamayaz (G Carter, 11-2); 2, Ela-Aristokrati (13-2); 3, Captain Horatius (20-1). Glory Of Dancer 2-1 fav. 8 ran. 5l, 1¼l. Saeed bin Suroor. Tote: £7.00; £1.80, £1.90, £5.00. DF: £13.80. CSF: £37.94.

3.50 (5f) 1, Royal Dome (G Carter, 20-1); 2, Sing With The Band (25-1); 3, Sea-Deer (16-1); 4, Rushcutter Bay (25-1). Youdontsay 11-2 fav. 21 ran. Hd, 4l. M Wane. Tote: £22.80; £3.80, £4.90, £4.60, £5.90. DF: £227.30. Trio: £2,612.50. CSF: £415.37. Tricast: £7,286.55.

4.20 (6f) 1, Well Warned (Pat Eddery, 8-13 fav); 2, Alkhlas (5-2); 3, All Is Fair (10-1). 5 ran. 2l, 4l. B Hills. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.80. DF: £1.90. CSF: £2.77.

4.50 (1m 6f) 1, Fancy Heights (J Reid, 7-2); 2, Deano's Beeno (10-1); 3, Diego (7-1). Alicia 11-4 fav. 7 ran. Hd, 2½l. Lady Herries. Tote: £4.40; £2.70, £3.10. DF: £41.30. CSF: £33.30.

Placepot: £503.20. Quadpot: £127.90.

Newmarket

Going: good to firm

2.00 (1m 4f) 1, Fine Detail (W Ryan, 15-2); 2, Flamands (11-2); 3, Lady Joshua (11-10 fav). 8 ran. Nk, 4l. R Charlton. Tote: £9.20; £2.10, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £20.90. CSF: £42.81. 2min 30.12sec.

2.30 (7f) 1, Ortolan (Dane O'Neill, 2-1); 2, Northern Judge (33-1); 3, Speedy Snaps Pride (50-1). Silent Expression 7-4 fav. 14 ran. 2l, hd. R Hannon. Tote: £3.20; £1.60, £9.30, £10.30. DF: £143.00. Trio: £604.30. CSF: £60.52. 1min 26.44sec.

3.05 (1m) 1, Mezzoramio (Birgit Roesch, 5-1 jt-fav); 2, Prudent Pet (20-1); 3, Roseate Lodge (7-1). Balpare 5-1 jt-fav. 10 ran. NR: La Fille De Cirque, Love Legend, Princesse Lyphard, Willull Lad. 1¼l, ¾l. K Morgan. Tote: £5.80; £2.30, £3.50, £2.10. DF: £79.90. Trio: £134.60. CSF: £77.73. Tricast: £591.45. 1min 43.64sec.

3.35 (7f) 1, Catwalk (M Hills, 20-1); 2, Fernanda (7-1); 3, Dancing Drop (6-1). Literary 11-4 fav. 10 ran. Hd, 1¼l. W Haggas. Tote: £19.60; £2.90, £2.70, £2.40. DF: £51.90. Trio: £64.80. CSF: £143.01. 1min 27.26sec.

4.10 (7f) 1, Polar Prince (P Robinson, 9-1, Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Prince Babar (11-2); 3, Crumpton Hill (11-2). Almuhimm 9-2 fav. 14 ran. ¾l, ¾l. M Jarvis. Tote: £12.10; £3.90, £2.50, £2.30. DF: £22.70. Trio: £29.70. CSF: £56.77. Tricast: £282.92. 1min 25.21sec.

4.40 (6f) 1, Disputed (P Robinson, 9-2); 2, Nilgiri Hills (7-2 fav); 3, Lucky Archer (20-1). 14 ran. Hd, ¾l. M Jarvis. Tote: £6.50; £2.30, £1.50, £3.60. DF: £16.80. Trio: £87.10. CSF: £19.89. 1min 13.80sec. Winner's time of 1min 13.90sec was hand-timed.

5.10 (1m 2f) 1, Angus-G (K Darley, 9-2 fav); 2, Edan Heights (14-1); 3, Voila Premiere (11-2). 12 ran. Nk, 1¼l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £4.20; £1.70, £6.10, £2.00. DF: £77.50. Trio: £123.70. CSF: £62.17. Tricast: £328.18. 2min 04.69sec.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £22,397.51 carried forward to Windsor today).

Placepot: £212.80. Quadpot: £48.30.

Redcar

2.10 1, Little Blue (12-1); 2, Skippy Was A Kiwi (8-1); 3, The Boo Man (11-4 fav). 14 ran.

2.40 1, Soden (11-1); 2, Ajayib (4-7 fav); 3, Dancing Queen (7-4). 4 ran.

3.10 1, Gladys Althorpe (25-1); 2, Saifan (10-1); 3, Wentbridge Lad (10-1). Ki Chi Saga 15-8 fav. 10 ran.

3.40 1, Clued Up (14-1); 2, Irish Oasis (10-1); 3, Miss Romance (5-2). Irish Sea 6-4 fav. 8 ran.

4.15 1, Red Valerian (9-1); 2, Double Up (3-1); 3, Mazilla (4-6 fav). 5 ran. NR: Dr Edgar.

4.45 1, Thwaab (5-2 fav); 2, Densben (12-1); 3, Upex Le Gold Too (9-1). 13 ran. NR: Sound The Trumpet. £109.00

Ayr

2.05 1, The Fly (7-2); 2, Captain William (9-2); 3, Palio Sky (11-2). Dargo 3-1 fav. 13 ran.

2.35 1, Ballard Lady (12-1); 2, Six For Luck (16-1); 3, Fantasy Racing (12-1). Baileys First 6-1 jt-fav. 15 ran.

3.05 1, Opal Jewel (5-2); 2, Triple Leap (7-1); 3, Upper Gallery (6-1). Altredo Altredo 11-8 fav. 11 ran. NR: Jungle Fresh.

3.35 1, My Gallery (5-1); 2, Celebration Cake (3-1 fav); 3, Knobbleeneeze (7-1). 15 ran.

4.05 1, Sis Garden (14-1); 2, Madonna Da Rossi (7-1); 3, Comiche Quest (7-1). Milliman City 7-2 fav. 13 ran.

4.35 1, Arian Spirit (6-4 fav); 2, Nosey Native (10-1); 3, Sea Freedom (11-2). 10 ran.

Lingfield Park

5.40 1, Our Eddie (8-1); 2, Dome Patrol (5-1); 3, Awesome Power (5-1). Elly Fleetfoot 3-1 fav. 10 ran. NR: Lucy's Gold, Thatchmaster.

6.10 1, Big Ben (5-1); 2, Inflation (2-1 fav); 3, Gunners Glory (4-1). 7 ran.

6.40 1, Paradise Navy (7-1); 2, Chris's Lad (4-1); 3, Pleasureland (20-1). Serious Trust 5-2 fav. 12 ran.

7.10 1, Caspian Morn (13-8 fav); 2, Our Way (8-1); 3, Brazilia (5-1). 9 ran.

7.40 1, Lough Erne (5-1 fav); 2, Scissor Ridge (8-1); 3, Rambold (8-1). 14 ran. NR: May Queen Megan, Robellion.

8.10 1, Neuwest (7-1); 2, Tameem (5-2); 3, Hawa Al Nasamaat (6-5 fav). 5 ran. NR: Dawalib.

Market Rasen

5.50 1, Cats Run (7-4); 2, Nordic Valley (10-11 fav); 3, Sassiver (4-1). 4 ran.

6.20 1, Wamdha (13-8 jt-fav); 2, John Tufty (7-2); 3, Elite Justice (13-8 jt-fav). 4 ran. NR: Out Ranking.

6.50 1, Magic Bloom (11-8 fav); 2, Drumstick (2-1); 3, Wake Up Luv (9-2). 5 ran.

7.20 1, Yaakum (9-4); 2, Stapleford Lady (7-4 fav); 3, Wise Advice (5-1). 4 ran.

7.50 1, Shahrani (4-5 fav); 2, China Mail (8-1); 3, Silverdale Lad (3-1). 6 ran.

8.20 1, Plinth (13-8 fav); 2, Little Tincture (9-2); 3, Ragamuffin Romeo (9-2). 5 ran.

Worcester

6.00 1, Tony's Mist (9-2); 2, Betabetcorbett (14-1); 3, Colway Prince (8-1). Lofty Deed 4-1 fav. 10 ran.

6.30 1, Stately Home (5-4); 2, Green's Seago (11-1). Winter Belle 8-11 fav. 3 ran.

7.00 1, Wadada (5-1); 2, Samanid (9-4 fav); 3, Star Market (3-1). 7 ran.

7.30 1, Hillwalk (7-1); 2, The Yank (11-2); 3, Comedy Road (8-1). Evangelica 7-4 fav. 9 ran.

8.00 1, Bourdonner (11-4); 2, Sigma Wireless (3-1); 3, Born To Please (7-4 fav). 6 ran.

8.30 1, Lord Tomanico (100-30); 2, Lancer (5-2); 3, Jebi (14-1). Belle Perk 7-4 fav. 7 ran. NR: Cond D'Estruval, Zine Lane.

Barry Trowbridge takes sides in the golden jubilee year of a little-known sport that now has Olympic recognition

It's not a basket or a net, it's a korf

PHOTOGRAPHS: DES JENSON

As the Olympic flame went out in Atlanta last weekend, korfball in England celebrated its fiftieth birthday with a golden jubilee tournament in Beckenham, southeast London — and very few people noticed. Symptomatic of the majority of truly minority sports in Great Britain, in that it needs funding to expand yet has been told repeatedly that it must widen the base of its playing pyramid before it will be considered for a handout, korfball's biggest problem is one of identity — "You play what?" — and that, indeed, is a shame.

Adapted by Nico Broekhuysen, a teacher in a mixed school in Amsterdam, from a game that he saw being played in southern Sweden in 1902, korfball is championed by those at its heart as the only sport worldwide that, by definition, *must* be played by mixed teams, and is a handball game of pace and immense variety.

To give a visual description to the vast majority who have *never even heard of korfball*, it is best defined as a mixture of basketball and netball. The pitch is rectangular and measures 40 metres by 20 metres indoors or 60 metres by 30 metres on grass, and is divided in two. If you touch the lines around your division, you are out of bounds.

There are eight players in a team; two men and two women play in defence and the same in attack, but, after every two goals — scored by either team — the players change divisions, and roles: attackers become defenders and defenders become attackers.

Players are not allowed to run with the ball, although the interpretation of gaining ground is far less prohibitive than in netball, so the use of space and movement away from your opponent are important. This creates the appearance of eight defenders shadowing eight attackers from beginning to end, which is, indeed, the case, as players tend to keep to an individual opponent throughout.

Goals are scored through a basket — without the backboard that is such an integral part of basketball — that stands 11ft 6in off the ground and is placed at two-third distance between halfway and the endline. Play, therefore, can continue when a shot is missed, so tall players obviously have an advantage in ball-retrieval here, while the part of the pitch *behind the post is an area in* which to keep your opponent's eyes off the ball.

Players may shoot from anywhere in the attacking zone, provided that they are not being "defended" by somebody of their own sex; the definition of "defended" being that the defender must be within arm's length of and facing the attacker, be between the attacker and the post, and be actively trying to block the path of the ball — not, note, blocking the free movement of the attacker's arms. Simple: *lose your defender off the ball*, receive a pass, then shoot.

Although very much a team game — the ball must be passed to the right place at the right time if you are to shoot — to succeed at the top level, individuals require balance, acceleration, hand-eye coordination and the ability to think ahead and move into space, but the fact that players have to continually change their roles means that "stars" — ie, goalscorers — tend to be eclipsed by team success.

SPORT FOR ALL

Korfball emerged in June 1903, after Broekhuysen had returned to Holland, and the game began as an outdoor pursuit of 12 players per side, on something the size of a hockey pitch and split into three divisions — attack, centre and defence — with players rotating through all three roles after every two goals. In the main, that is how is stayed for 80-odd years.

Not until after korfball was demonstrated at the Olympic Games in Antwerp in 1920 did its fascination stretch beyond the Dutch border — Belgium duly taking up the challenge — but that was the limit of expansion until after the Second World War.

Through the Anglo Netherlands Sports Association, Dutch players demonstrated *the game for the first time in* England at Willesden, northwest London, on July 6, 1946 and, in September 1948, a league was born comprising six teams: two each from Croydon, Mitcham and Wandsworth.

Although the game became established in southeast London, expansion in England in the next 30 years was minimal, but by 1980 a league had been formed around Maidstone, Kent, and the world governing body, inevitably Dutch, was looking on England as a prime site for growth.

By this time, too, what was to prove a far more significant metamorphosis had begun. The removal of the centre division when the game was played indoors, the subsequent cut in team size from 12 to eight and a worldwide shift in emphasis from an outdoor sport to an indoor one, were to make korfball far more marketable. In England, Max Buttinger and Graham Box, young men about to begin university courses, were also *to make their mark*.

Established players in London and Kent, respectively, they introduced indoor korfball to London and Oxford universities, and the student jungle telegraph took over. Domestically and globally, the development of korfball in the next 15 years was phenomenal.

From its base in London and Kent, the National League was formed in 1987 and the game in Great Britain now attracts some 4,000 players and is firmly established in more than 30 centres — nearly all university towns — ranging from Aberdeen to Brighton and from Plymouth to Norwich, where there is a junior league comprising 26 schools. This weekend, 27 teams contested the national county championship in Nottingham.

Internationally, korfball is established in more than 50 countries and it has been recently afforded full membership of the Olympic movement. *In magazines just* published, the international federation has featured the game in such diverse places as Armenia, Australia, Russia, South Africa and the United States; in Taiwan, it receives Government funding.

The most recent world championship was held in Delhi, India, in 1995, when Britain finished eighth. In 1987, Britain was third.

Although the world of korfball is expanding fast, there is no reason why that decline should continue. With the National Curriculum determining that children of both sexes are taught skills rather than expertise in specific games, korfball seems to have all the requirements to spread nationwide.

It may have taken 50 years to lay the foundations, but international success — and, in the not-too-distant future, perhaps, Olympic recognition — is there for the taking... once people stop asking "You play what?"

Family fun: John Crisp, left, with his children Anne and David, and grandson Roger

KORFBALL had been established in England for less than three years when John Crisp made the discovery of what he describes as "the biggest influence on my life outside of my *family*".

He played his first game in February, 1949, and, at 68, he still turns out occasionally for the Pelham club, which is based in Wimbledon.

He met Joyce, who was to become his wife in January, 1953 — "the date was chosen because Mitcham had no league fixture that weekend" — on a korfball pitch two months later, so it is not surprising that their two sons and daughter took up the sport as youngsters.

Stuart, the younger son, eventually drifted towards football, but David, 38, and Anne, 34, are still actively involved, and Roger, Anne's nine-year-old son, is an eager junior, proving that, for the Crisp dynasty at least, korfball really is a "Sport For All".

A lover of the outdoors, John Crisp is adamant that the condensed game of the Nineties does not have the appeal that a 90-minute, three-division match on a winter Sunday morning used to have.

Nevertheless, his enthusiasm for korfball is clearly as strong now as it was when he captained the successful Mitcham club from 1952 to 1967 and he still finds time to train each week and is an ever-present at all-day tournaments, a noteworthy feature of this most social of sports.

Playing the game: mixed teams swap the roles of defender and attacker during play

WHERE TO WATCH

THE next opportunity to see korfball is at the National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace, on September 21, when Croydon, the national champions in what is also their fiftieth year, compete with their counterparts from France and Portugal in a European Cup qualifying tournament.

Further details and other information from the British Korfball Association, PO Box 179, Maidstone, Kent, or from Max Buttinger, 9 St Kilda's Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 1QD (0181-863 8723).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

As West, what would you lead from this hand :

♠52 ♥73 ♦AKQ10873 ♣K8

This is the auction:

W	N	E	S
1 D.	Double	Pass	1 NT
All Pass			

The hand occurred in this year's Premier League match between Price and Sowter. The full deal:

Dealer West Game all IMPs

North: ♠Q103 ♥AK64 ♦2 ♣QJ975

West: ♠52 ♥73 ♦AKQ10873 ♣K8

East: ♠KJ864 ♥QJ85 ♦6 ♣1063

South: ♠A97 ♥1092 ♦J954 ♣A42

Contract: 1 NT by South. Lead: five of spades

I think Tom Townsend's lead was well thought out. It was likely that South had four diamonds to the jack to be able to bid 1 NT. Thus West's best hope of beating the contract was to find East with an entry, to lead his singleton diamond through the declarer's holding.

It is true that if West had led and continued diamonds, he would later have got in with the king of clubs and still taken the contract one off. But the ace of clubs was more likely to be in dummy than with declarer. It is also true that if North had held the ace-king of spades instead of the ace-king of hearts, and South's holdings were correspondingly reversed, a diamond would have been the only lead to beat the contract. To that extent it's a toss-up as to which major will work best. On this occasion the spade worked well — after winning the king of clubs West put his partner in with a second spade, and when East led back a diamond, West took seven tricks in the suit to beat the contract by three.

At the other table our teammates tried 3 NT on the East-West cards, so our team went down a total of 700 in undertricks.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Children's Olympiad

Thirty teams are taking part in the fourth Children's Olympiad in Suto More, in Montenegro. After two rounds the team from England has crushed Macedonia by 3.5-0.5 and drawn with Denmark 2-2. In the first round Karl Mah won the following sharp clash in the double-edged Dragon Variation of the Sicilian Defence.

White: Levkov
Black: Mah
Children's Olympiad
August 1996
Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	g6
6	Be3	Bg7
7	f3	0-0
8	Bc4	Nc6
9	Qd2	Bd7
10	0-0-0	Rc8
11	Bb3	Ne5
12	h4	h5
13	Bh6	Nc4
14	Bxc4	Rxc4
15	Bxg7	Kxg7
16	g4	hxg4
17	h5	Rh8
18	hxg6	fxg6
19	f4	b5
20	f5	gxf5
21	exf5	Kf7
22	Ne6	Qg8
23	Nd5	Ne4
24	Rxh8	Qxh8
25	Ng5+	Ke8
26	Qf4	Qh6
27	Ne3	Ra4
28	Ne6	Qxf4
29	Nxf4	Nf2
30	Rf1	Rxf4
31	Nd5	Nd3+

White resigns

Diagram of final position

British Championship

After six rounds of the British Championship in Nottingham, Chris Ward has defeated the defending champion, grandmaster Matthew Sadler, and leads with the fine score of 5.5/6. Sharing second place along with 12-year-old prodigy Luke Mcshane are: Aaron Summerscale, John Emms, Jonathan Parker, Charles Cobb, Andrew Martin and Graham Lee.

Junior titles

Two of the British junior championships have already been decided. The winner of the under-13 championship is Ross Battray, of Cheam, with 5.5/6 and the winner of the under-15 championship is Mark Roberts, of Sevenoaks, also with 5.5/6.

Chess demonstration

On Saturday August 17 from 10.30am at Heffers Bookshop, Sidney St, Cambridge, international master Bob Wade and national coach will be offering free chess clinics and lessons for younger players as well as being prepared to take on all-comers in games.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AICH
a. Neuralgia
b. Gunmetal
c. A whisky cup

DOP
a. An idiot
b. Director of Punctuation
c. Brandy

CROCKFORD
a. A Bridge bidding convention
b. A currant bun
c. A clerical directory

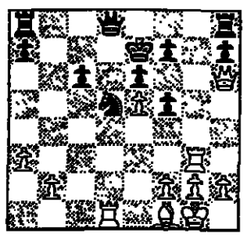
EN-SOPH
a. The Cabbalistic God
b. An American sorority club
c. An enzyme

Answers on page 37

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Speelman — Kosinen, Denmark 1996. The black pawn structure is weak and his king is exposed but his knight on d5 is a very good piece. Can you see how White dealt with Black's strengths while further exposing his weaknesses?



Solution on page 37

SPORTS LETTERS

Olympic failures rooted in coaching ethos

From Mr M. Byford

Sir, There has been much deliberation as to the cause of our poor showing in the Olympics. As the Government embarks on a potentially costly course of action to rectify this, let me offer another view.

I am involved in coaching, *mainly tennis and rowing. In* order to do this competently, professionally and with minimum injury to athletes, I have studied for a BSc, a Masters degree in Medical Science and a PGCE and also taken a number of vocational qualifications at considerable expense. As a reward, I am instructed by the LTA that I can charge £15 per hour for coaching (this money covers shoes, balls, racquets, re-stringing) and the rowing tradition is that the only payment is that of gratitude.

The question I would ask is why bother? The coaching ethos in this country is to promote ex-athletes to the highest positions where they can reinforce the poor and sometimes debilitating methods they were coached under. They know very little of physiology, et cetera. This is not sour grapes. I have had major success with my scientifically-based coaching methodology, but have been unable to break into the old boys' (and girls') networks which govern both these sports. Ex-top class athletes should be marketing sport and encouraging children to take part, not coaching unless sufficiently talented and trained as "teachers".

I suggest the Government targets its support at the grass-roots and rewards these people realistically for their contributions in order to maximise the number of potential Olympians, rather than fritter it away by making the elite even more so at the expense of British sport as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE BYFORD,
23 Westfield Road,
Great Shelford,
Cambridgeshire, CB2 5JW.

From Mr C. Johnston

Sir, Many theories have already been put forward in the hope of explaining why Great Britain enjoyed such little success in Atlanta. I believe, however, that I have located the real cause of Britain's underachieving — Sue Barker's eyebrows. Although they are attached to a rather likeable face, these sad-looking angled creatures seem particularly unsuited to the task of conveying good news.

I can only assume that Miss Barker recognises her dilemma and had a quiet word with some of our major athletes, in order to guarantee that there would be plenty of hard-luck, eyebrow-friendly stories to relate.

Sincerely,
CHRIS JOHNSTON,
Thwaites House,
Duddon Hall,
Broughton-in-Furness,
Cumbria.

Wimbledon still open to allcomers

From the Chief Executive of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club

Sir, Simon Barnes's article (Midweek View, August 7) provided an enjoyable read as ever, but a pity he could not resist an inaccurate swipe at Wimbledon. For the record perhaps I might be allowed to correct one or two things.

Not only do tennis fans continue to have genuine access to tickets through the public ballot and the country's 2,500 affiliated tennis clubs, but Wimbledon remains one of the few top sporting events in this country for which people can still buy tickets on the day.

You might also like to know that corporate hospitality represents under 10 per cent of the ticket allocation on Centre Court and No 1 Court and that over the past few years, the club has reduced the level of corporate hospitality within the grounds. Indeed, there are plans to reduce it still further in the future.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER GORRINGE,
Chief Executive,
The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club,
Church Road, Wimbledon,
SW19 5AE.

Called out

From Viscount Hampden

Sir, I wholeheartedly endorse everything Julian Muscat said about the public address system at Goodwood (commentary, August 5). We want to watch horses and admire their handlers and jockeys without being endlessly asked to applaud sponsors and owners.

But Mr Muscat has not had the ultimate indignity of a personal assault from the Goodwood public address system. Some three or four years ago in the middle of a wet afternoon I suddenly heard the following announcement emanating from the tannoy. "Would Viscount Hampden go immediately to *his car in the car-park where* the police await him. His car is a Ford Granada."

As I slunk off to the car park (I had left a window open and an attendant had thoughtfully sent a message that I might like to come and shut it), I felt like a victim of a Bateman cartoon with a thousand pair of eyes glued to a peer who dared come to Goodwood in a Ford Granada.

Yours faithfully,
HAMPDEN,
Glynde Place,
Glynde,
Lewes, Sussex.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They should include a daytime telephone number.

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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RETAILERS, FOOD

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock (Yrs-Mths-Dec)	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)				
Treas 7% 1996	100⅛		0.91	5.78
Conv 10% 1996	100⅝		9.91	5.68
Treas 7% 1997	101¼		6.93	5.84
Treas 13¼% 1997	108¾		12.84	5.61
Exch 10¼% 1997	102¾		10.26	5.75
Treas 8¾% 1997	100¾		8.52	5.92
Exch 12½% 1997	110⅝		13.59	5.91
Exch 9¾% 1998	104⅞		9.30	6.14
Treas 7¼% 1998	101⅛		7.15	6.26
Treas 6¾% 1998-98	100⅝		6.74	5.60
Treas 14% 1998-01	112¾		12.42	6.29
Treas 15½% 1998	117¾		13.16	6.30
Exch 12% 1998	111⅝		10.80	6.57
Treas 9¾% 1999	106¾		9.94	6.62
Exch 12¾% 1999	113⅝		10.84	6.69
Treas 10½% 1999	109¾		9.60	6.71
Treas 6% 1999	97¾		6.13	6.75
Conv 10¼% 1999	109⅝		9.35	6.87
Conv 9% 2000	106⅝		8.47	6.97
Treas 8% 2000	103⅝		7.74	7.07
Treas 13% 2000	120		10.83	7.05
Treas 10% 2001	110¾		9.03	7.17
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
Treas 7% 2001	99¾		7.07	7.23
Treas 9¾% 2002	111⅝		8.78	7.40
Treas 8% 2003	105¾		7.78	7.46
Treas 10% 2003	113¾		8.85	7.53
Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116⅝		9.91	7.59
Treas 8% 2005	101⅝		8.29	7.65
Treas 9% 2008	108⅝		8.36	7.66
Treas 8¾% 2008	108⅝		8.07	7.69
LONGS (over 15 years)				
Treas 6¾% 2010	100⅝		7.76	8.04
Conv 9% 2011	108⅝		8.31	8.02
Treas 9% 2012	109¾		8.31	8.06
Treas 5¾% 2009-12	79⅝		8.06	7.83
Treas 8% 2013	99⅝		8.07	8.08
Treas 7¾% 2012-15	96⅝		7.99	8.09
Treas 9% 2015	109⅝		8.07	8.08
Treas 8¾% 2017	106⅝		8.25	8.13
Treas 12% 2013-17	134¾		8.89	8.18
Treas 4¼% 2020	98⅝		8.09	8.10
UNDATED				
War Ln 3½%	42⅝		8.21	
Treas 2½%	30⅝		8.15	
Consols 4%	48⅝		8.31	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:				10% 5%
Treas 8 4/9% 1998	113¾		1.03	2.54
Treas 8 2/9% 2001	102⅝		2.90	3.42
Treas 9 2/9% 2003	117¾		3.17	3.57
Treas 8 4/9% 2004	115¾		3.24	3.58
Treas 8 2/9% 2006	105⅝		3.35	3.82
Treas 8 2/9% 2008	106¾		3.45	3.68
Treas 8 2/9% 2011	107¾		3.57	3.71
Treas 8 2/9% 2013	141¾		3.55	3.73
Treas 8 2/9% 2016	150¾		3.59	3.76
Treas 8 2/9% 2020	143¾		3.64	3.78
Treas 8 2/9% 2024	118¾		3.64	3.77
Treas 4 1/9% 2030	117¾		3.64	3.77

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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: BPP, Henderson Admin, London Finance & Investment, Smith & Nephew, TBI, WPP Group. **Finals:** Australian Opp Inv Trust, US Smaller Companies Investment Trust.
Economics statistics: UK July producer prices; Bank of France money market tender; Bank of France discount T-bill auction; US Treasury auction of short-term T-bills.

TOMORROW

Interims: BOC, General Accident, General Cable, Lilleshall, Sedgwick Group. **Finals:** VDC.
Economic statistics: US July consumer prices index; US July retail sales; US Mitsubishi weekly store sales; US July real earnings; US Atlanta fed survey; US Johnson Redbook sales; US Treasury announces size of short-term T-bills; French provisional q2 employment data.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: F&C Income Growth Inv Trust, Glynwed International, Hemingway Properties, Independent Insurance Group, MAID. **Finals:** Celtic, Dunedin Japan Inv Trust.
Economic statistics: Minutes of July 3 monetary policy meeting between the Chancellor and Governor of the Bank of England; July British Retail Consortium survey; UK July unemployment; UK May average earnings; unit wage costs; US June business inventories; US Q2 non-farm productivity; Bundesbank awards repos.

THURSDAY

Interims: T Clarke, LM Ericsson, Microvitec, North Midland Construction, Portmeirion Potteries, Rea Brothers Group, Hanson (Q3), Johnson Group Cleaners. **Finals:** Kleinwort High Income.
Economic statistics: UK July RPI; US weekly jobless claims; US July industrial production; US August Philadelphia Fed survey; US July capacity utilisation; US Treasury auction of 52-week T-bills; Philadelphia Fed August business survey. Public holiday in most of Europe, French markets closed.

FRIDAY

Interims: none scheduled. **Finals:** none scheduled.
Economic statistics: UK July PSBR; US July housing starts; US August Michigan consumer sentiment.

COMPANIES CLARE STEWART

WPP bathed in a golden glow

WPP: British Olympic medals may have been thin on the ground, but WPP, the marketing services giant, will have enjoyed the publicity glow surrounding two of its largest clients, IBM and Kodak — Olympic sponsors and big spenders.

Interim figures today from WPP look set to show profits up by a third to £64 million, helped by strong revenue growth and continued margin improvement.

Bumper profits will also take Martin Sorrell, chief executive, nearer the target set for his controversial long-term incentive scheme, which could pay him £28 million over five years.

Suggestions of a share buyback have helped to buoy shares recently, but WPP, which still has debts to reduce, may prefer to spend its surplus cash on small infill acquisitions or on beefing up the dividend.

SMITH & NEPHEW: Uncertain conditions in the US and slower growth in the UK are likely to hold back sales at Smith & Nephew, the healthcare group.

Interim pre-tax profits, due today, are expected to rise about 7 per cent to £91 million, but analysts have trimmed back full-year forecasts to less than £190 million. Interest in the surgical dressings to Simple soap group is likely to focus on progress in important new areas, such as its joint venture with Advanced Tissue Sciences to grow human skin artificially. The Dermagraft product is expected to have considerable potential for use in treating burns, ulcers and in conjunction with plastic surgery. The company has hinted that more hi-tech developments are being sought.

GENERAL ACCIDENT: The first of a clutch of insurers reporting this week will see the cost of winter weather claims feature heavily tomorrow in its figures for the six months to June, and operating profits are expected to fall from £254 million to about £170 million.

The underwriting result overall is likely to show a sharp fall, with analysts at NatWest Securities forecasting an increased loss from £8 million to £141 million.

Assessing the damage: General Accident's Bob Scott is expected to report a sharp fall in profits

Life profits, however, look rosier, helped by the acquisition of Provident Mutual earlier this year. Bob Scott, chief executive, said that first-quarter progress was better than originally expected and profits are expected to outpace rationalisation costs this year. A dividend of 11.4p, up 6.5 per cent, is forecast.

SEDGWICK GROUP: The impact of the weaker dollar and disappointing new business levels in the US will be seen in tomorrow's results from the insurance broker. The City is expecting a small increase in pre-tax profits on last year's £63 million, with estimates ranging between £64 million and £68 million. An unchanged dividend of 3p is forecast.

BOC: Third-quarter results from the industrial gases group should see pre-tax profits in the range of £110 million to £115 million, against £99.8 million in 1995. Continued evidence of strong earnings growth is expected and a full-year result of £460 million before tax is being pencilled in.

GENERAL CABLE: Reduced pre-tax losses are expected when General Cable reports interim figures tomorrow. Losses are expected to narrow to £9 million against £11 million in 1995.

General Cable, which operates franchises in West London, Birmingham and Yorkshire, has recently taken full control of Yorkshire Cable. While profits are not expected until 1999, further good news on cash flow is expected. The group was cash positive in the last quarter of 1995 and the first quarter of 1996. News on subscriber levels and telephone line connections will also be sought to give an indication of the group's progress.

GLYNWED: A modest increase in pre-tax profits is forecast for the Midlands engineering conglomerate, which reports half-year figures on Wednesday.

Sliding metals prices and a lacklustre construction industry have held back progress at Glynwed, where profits are set to increase by about 6 per cent to £44 million. The figures will also include an increased contribution from Victaulic, the pipeline products manufacturer acquired last year.

Analysts say that restructuring at the group, which produces products ranging from Aga cookers to manhole covers, means it is well prepared for recovery in its key markets.

MAID: The online information provider will be expected to report good news along with its interim figures on Wednesday. Pre-tax losses are set to rise to a little less than £3 million, compared with a profit of £408,000 in the first half of 1995. The losses reflect the cost of the company's rapid growth, but the City will swallow this if there is news of more expansion and new deals to sustain the momentum.

Shares in the group headed by Dan Wagner, its 33-year-old chief executive, have a had a roller-coaster ride, propelled ahead by its link-up with Microsoft and by alliances with IBM, Compuserve and Forte, now part of Granada. Shares begin this week at 280p, having touched a high of 341p and a low of 153p in 1996.

HANSON: Chemicals will be under the spotlight when Hanson releases third-quarter figures on Thursday. Ahead of exceptional items — chiefly the proceeds of its £2 billion disposal programme — analysts are looking for pre-tax profits in the range of £255 million to £300 million, compared to £321 million last year.

The results will highlight the impact of falling prices on Hanson's chemicals businesses, which are due to be floated off in October. Earlier this month Hanson announced cutbacks in its SCM business, the world's third-largest producer of titanium dioxide, supplied to the paint, plastics and paper industries.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Inflation data in spotlight

After the Bank of England's cautious words on inflation last week, coupled with the suggestion that interest rates might need to rise, attention will focus sharply on the inflation-related data published this week.

The inflation statistics for July will be unveiled on Thursday, with MMS forecasting headline inflation to jump from 2.1 per cent to 2.3 per cent. The Government's favoured RPIX measure, which excludes mortgage payments, is expected to show a similar increase to 3 per cent. But some economists believe that downward pressure from mortgage rates and the continuing supermarket wars may help to keep the inflation rate in check.

Producer prices data for July, which provide an indication of potential inflationary pressures at the start of the distribution cycle, will be published today.

The sector has struggled in recent months and MMS predicts that factory output prices will show a monthly fall of 0.1 per cent, compared with a 0.2 per cent drop in June, while the yearly rate will show a fall from 2.6 per cent to 2.2 per cent. However, input prices are expected to rise slightly after an increase in oil prices.

On Wednesday, July's unemployment is expected to show a further fall of 15,000, compared with 14,300 in June. In spite of the continuing fall in unemployment, average earnings for June are predicted to show a modest 3.5 per cent rise.

On Friday, the public sector borrowing requirement is forecast to rise by £0.2 billion, although the Government has little room for error if it intends to push through tax cuts in the autumn. The British Retail Consortium retail sales survey for July, published on Wednesday, is expected to show strong growth, although a touch lower than June's 7 per cent rise.

Overseas, attention will focus on US retail sales, which are expected to fall 0.5 per cent, and housing starts, where a small fall to 1.46 million is also predicted.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** Fenner, Quicks, N Brown Group and Takare; **Hold** Morgan Sindall and General Accident. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** W H Smith, N Brown Group and Home Counties Newspapers; **Hold** Airtours. *The Observer*: **Buy** De Beers and GKN. *Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** Bensons Crisps and Rentokil; **Sell** RJB Mining; **Hold** Bluebird Toys.

Wrong defendants named on writ

Murray v Hibernian Dance Club

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Hutchison and Lord Justice Potter

[Judgment July 24]

Where a plaintiff, who fell and broke her ankle when visiting a members' club, sued for damages naming the defendant as the Hibernian Dance Club, an unincorporated entity, the issue which was raised on appeal was the question of who was the intended defendant rather than whether the claim against the named defendant was maintainable.

In all the circumstances it was not considered that the mistake made, namely to sue the members and/or proprietors of the club under a collective title apt to describe them but devoid of personality at English law, as opposed to suing individually named defendants, was such as to cause any reasonable doubt that the claim was being asserted against the membership as a whole.

The Court of Appeal so stated in dismissing an appeal by the defendants, the Hibernian Dance Club, against a decision of Judge Phelan, on May 23, 1995, at West London County Court, whereby he allowed an appeal by the plaintiff, Mrs Dyan Murray, against the order of District Judge Haselgrove who, on January 27, 1995, had struck out the action.

Mr Robert Deacon for the Hibernian Dance Club; Mr Michael Irvine for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE HUTCHISON said the plaintiff claimed that her injury was caused by slipping on some liquid on the floor of the club, in Fulham Broadway, London, on January 22, 1989.

She later consulted solicitors, Brocklesby & Co, and a writ was issued on April 5, 1990. On May 20, 1991 her solicitors claimed that they were told by the solicitors for the club, Finers, that the correct defendant was the Hibernian Club and not the individual they had named. That was later disputed.

On May 22, 1991 Finers served a defence drafted by counsel, which gave no hint of taking any point as to parties and certainly did not assert that the Hibernian Dance Club was not an entity capable of being sued, together with a request for further and better particulars, which was answered on August 14, 1992, on which date the plaintiff's solicitors also served a reply.

The primary limitation period had expired on January 21, 1992. On April 15, 1993, with the consent of Finers, the action was transferred to West London County Court.

The inescapable inference from letters of January 11 and 13, 1995, received by the plaintiff's solicitors from Finers was that it was only as a result of counsel's pointing out that a members' club could not be sued in the style adopted here that Finers realised there was a defect and decided, belatedly, to raise it.

On February 19, 1995 Finers applied for the plaintiff's claim to be struck out on the ground that the purported defendant was in law a non-existent entity. The plaintiff's solicitors applied for leave to amend to join the member of the committee of the club as at the date of the accident as defendants.

In allowing the appeal the judge gave leave to amend under Order 20, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, as applied to county court proceedings by Order 15 of the County Court Rules.

The real issue raised by the appeal was who was the intended defendant. As Lord Justice Griffiths emphasised in *Evans Construction Co Ltd v Charrington & Co Ltd* ([1983] 1 QB 810, 825), when considering the nature of a mistake sought to be corrected by a plaintiff in respect of a wrongly named defendant, the crucial question was whether the mistake was such as to cause any reasonable doubt as to the person intended to be sued.

It seemed to his Lordship plain that, in all the circumstances, there was and could have been no reasonable doubt in the minds of the defendants, at latest when they were served with the amended writ and statement of claim, that the claim was asserted, and intended to be asserted, against the entire membership of the Hibernian Dance Club.

Although the plaintiff first issued the writ, accompanied with a statement of claim, with a heading appropriate to a proprietary club, there came a time when, at the express suggestion of the defendants' solicitors, the name of the person believed by the plaintiff's solicitor to have been the proprietor was deleted from the title, so that the name of the defendants appeared simply as "The Hibernian Dance Club" and it was in that name that the defendants' solicitors acknowledged service.

Thus, whatever contentions it may be open to individual members of the club to advance as to their liability to the plaintiff, what appeared to be clear beyond any doubt was that the intention of the plaintiff was to proceed against all the members.

His Lordship was quite satisfied that no confusion was created in the minds of those responsible to the members for conducting the defence to the claim in the sense that they believed the claim was against anyone but the club members as a whole. Everything that happened pointed to that conclusion.

Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Beldam agreed that the claim should be dismissed.

Solicitors: Finers; Brocklesby & Co.

Restraining foreign proceedings

Airbus Industrie GIE v Patel and Others

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Aldous

[Judgment July 30]

On recognised principles of English law, the English courts had jurisdiction to grant an injunction to restrain foreign proceedings notwithstanding the application was not made for the purpose of protecting proceedings in this country. The discretion to grant such an injunction should be exercised to prevent an injustice such as in the instant case where to allow the defendants to continue their proceedings, in an inappropriate forum, would be unconscionable and oppressive and unjust to the plaintiffs.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Airbus Industrie GIE, from the refusal by Mr Justice Colman (*The Times* May 21, 1996) to exercise his discretion in their favour and grant them an injunction to restrain the defendants, Jaisukh Patel, Neeta Patel, D, an infant, by Jaisukh Patel, Ratna Patel, Valhai Patel and T, an infant, by Ratna Patel, from pursuing an appeal from the decision of the Texas State District Court refusing the defendants jurisdiction for an action against the plaintiffs.

In 1994 an India Airlines A320 aircraft manufactured by Airbus crashed as it was about to land at Bangalore. The defendants, British citizens resident in England who were among the passengers, had claims arising.

In 1992 two sets of plaintiffs commenced separate proceedings against Airbus in the Texas court. The defendants were the plaintiffs in one of those actions.

Following complex procedural manoeuvres the Texas court held that Airbus was immune from suit in the United States. The defendants sought to appeal against that decision.

In April 1995 Airbus obtained a declaration in the Bangalore City Civil Court that the defendants were not entitled to proceed against Airbus in any court other than in Bangalore.

By originating summons Airbus applied to Mr Justice Colman for an injunction to restrain the defendants from pursuing their appeal against the decision of the Texas court.

Mr Michael Crane, QC and Mr Akhil Shah for the plaintiffs, Airbus; Mr Jeremy J Russell, QC and Miss Poonam Melwani for the defendants, the English claimants.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that the question was whether the English claimants should be restrained from prosecuting further an action they had started against Airbus in Texas on the ground that those proceedings were vexatious and oppressive.

The judge accepted that he had jurisdiction to grant an injunction but, in the exercise of his discretion having regard to the extent of the prejudice to Airbus and the advantages to the claimants in litigating in Texas, concluded that it was not appropriate to do so.

There was no precedent covering the case, all previous cases having been concerned with the interrelation of English proceedings and proceedings in a foreign court.

The answer had to be found by having regard to principle. The statements of principle found in the authorities did cover cases such as the present and provided a basis on which an injunction could be granted if the facts justified it: see *Castanho v Brown & Root (UK) Ltd* ([1981] AC 557, 573); *British Airways Board v Laker Airways Ltd* ([1985] AC 58, 95); *South Carolina Insurance Co v Assurantie Maatschappij "De Zeven Provincien" NV* ([1987] AC 24, 40, 44) and *Société Nationale Industrielle Aerospatiale v Lee Kui Jak* ([1987] AC 871, 894)).

The exercise of the discretion whether or not to grant the remedy was for the judge. However, if he had not applied the right criteria or had not correctly selected and evaluated the facts and circumstances, the Court of Appeal had to exercise the discretion itself. The judge had not set the tests at the appropriate level nor had he correctly evaluated the facts.

Three aspects were relevant to whether there was in fact an injustice:

1 What was the natural forum for the determination of the dispute. There could be no question but that Texas was not.

2 Whether Airbus would be prejudiced by the continuation of the claimants' proceedings against them in Texas. They would. Liability, if any, would be determined by the Texas court on the basis of strict liability under Texas law which on the principles of conflict of law had no place in the determination of the liability to the English claimants.

3 Whether to enjoin the claimants from proceeding in Texas against Airbus would deprive them of a legitimate advantage. The avoidance of delay was a legitimate advantage as was the ability of the claimants to obtain finance thanks to the contingent fee system prevailing in Texas.

The judge wrongly evaluated those factors. Further, he wrongly excluded the fact that the Texas courts did not allow any consideration of whether Texas was an appropriate forum. The conduct of the claimants was clearly oppressive and caused significant injustice to Airbus.

An injunction should be granted requiring the claimants not to prosecute further their proceedings against Airbus in Texas.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE, concurring, said that he found the question whether an injunction should be granted or not to be unusually difficult but was in the end persuaded that it should be. The key was the Texas court's disregard of the principle of forum conveniens, the crucial significance of which had not come home to the judge.

Unless that question was considered by the English court, it would not be considered by any court having the power to enforce its decision. Directly the court assumed that responsibility, it could be clearly seen that Texas was not an appropriate forum for the resolution of the dispute.

Further, to allow the English claimants to continue their proceedings there would be not only unconscionable but oppressive and unjust to Airbus. Accordingly, while emphasising the quite exceptional facts of the case, Airbus were entitled to the relief they sought.

Lord Justice Aldous agreed.

Solicitors: Cameron Markby Hewitt; Clyde & Co.

When debt cannot be set off against claim

Bank of Credit and Commerce International SA (in Liquidation) v Al-Saud

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Waite

[Judgment July 23]

A party could not set off a debt held by a nominee against a claim by an insolvent company in circumstances where the court had to inquire into the party's ownership of the debt at the date of the winding-up of the company.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by the defendant, Prince Fahd Bin Salman Abdul Aziz Al-Saud against the decision of Mr J. Wadsworth, QC, who, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court on December 13, 1994, allowed an appeal brought by the liquidators of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International SA against the decision of Deputy Master Leslie on October 12, 1994 to give the defendant leave to defend the action commenced by the liquidators, following which they issued an Order 14 summons.

Mr Terence Mowschenson, QC, for the defendant; Mr Robin Dicker for the liquidators.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that the appeal raised a question of importance as to the meaning and effect of rule 4.90 of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925).

In the proceedings the bank had sought to recover from the defendant $396,842.01 pursuant to a guarantee given by the defendant in respect of an overdrawn balance owed by him in respect of an overdrawn balance owed by Colchest Corporation NV. Colchest banked with BCCI at its Edgware Road branch.

The defendant sought to set off against the sum claimed the moneys standing to the credit of three accounts at BCCI's Park Lane branch in the name of Mr Esam Ghazzawi, on the basis that it was said that those sums were owned beneficially by the defendant.

The writ was issued on May 19, 1994 and on May 31 the bank issued an Order 14 summons.

The claim by the bank was put forward on the basis that it was a simple claim for the payment of money due under a contract of guarantee. The bank relied on rule 4.90 of the Insolvency Rules and *Re Willis, Percival & Co, Ex parte Morier* ((1879) 12 Ch D 491).

The judge found on the basis of that case that the set-off could not be allowed because there was a dispute as to the ownership of the moneys in the three Park Lane accounts and because it would be necessary to have an investigation into the entitlement of those moneys.

It was argued on behalf of the defendant that it was at least arguable that on a proper construction of rule 4.90 a party could set off a debt held by a nominee against a claim by an insolvent company even though the court might have to inquire into the party's ownership of the debt at the date of the winding-up of the company.

Like the judge, his Lordship was unclear as to the extent of any intermingling of the payments in the three accounts between Mr Ghazzawi's own money and money which might have come from the defendant. Moreover, his Lordship was unclear as to the claims which Mr Ghazzawi might have on those accounts.

Indeed it was accepted on behalf of the defendant that some inquiry would be necessary to ascertain the precise state of accounts between the defendant and Mr Ghazzawi, although it was contended that the need for such an inquiry did not prevent the sums standing in the three accounts constituting provable debts and therefore being available for the purposes of an insolvency set-off.

Counsel for the liquidators submitted correctly that unless the rule in *Ex parte Morier* was distinguishable or could be taken to be modified by the House of Lords in *Stein v Blake* ([1996] 1 AC 243) the court was bound by an authority of long standing.

His Lordship found that the case was not distinguishable and the difficulty with the suggestion that *Ex parte Morier* was to be taken to be modified by Lord Hoffmann's speech in *Stein v Blake* was that it did not appear that Lord Hoffmann considered that he was introducing a change in the law.

Moreover, the rule in *Ex parte Morier* was itself supported by other authorities and by statements in textbooks.

It was true that a debt which was not eligible for proof was not eligible for set off. But that did not mean that all debts which were eligible for proof were eligible for set off under rule 4.90. The rule added the requirement that the debts had to be mutual.

His Lordship accepted the submission of the liquidators that unless the defendant's entitlement to the moneys in the three Park Lane accounts could be shown to be clear and ascertained there was a lack of mutuality or reciprocity between himself and the bank. There was no arguable defence available to the defendant and the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Waite agreed.

Solicitors: Stevens & Bolton, Guildford; Wilde Sapte.

Danger of inferring intent only from action

Regina v Woollin

Before Lord Justice Roch, Mr Justice Collins and Judge Myerson

[Judgment July 23]

Where the only evidence of a defendant's intention was the evidence of his acts and their consequences on the victim, the jury were not entitled to infer the necessary intent, in the rare case where the defendant might not have purposed the death or serious injury of the victim, unless the jury were sure that death or serious bodily injury was a virtual certainty and the defendant must have appreciated that such was the case.

It was not, however, necessary to couch the direction in such terms where there was evidence in addition to the defendant's actions and their effects on the victim.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held on July 23 in dismissing an appeal by Stephen Leslie Woollin against his conviction in December 1995 at Leeds Crown Court (Judge Walsh, QC and a jury) of murder for which he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Section 8 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 provides:

"A court or jury, in determining whether a person has committed an offence — (a) shall not be bound in law to infer that he intended or foresaw a result of his actions by reason only of its being a natural and probable consequence of those actions; but (b) shall decide whether he did intend or foresee that result by reference to all the evidence, drawing such inferences from the evidence as appear proper in the circumstances."

Mr Thomas Bayliss, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Peter Collier, QC, for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE ROCH, delivering the judgment of the court, said that in interview the appellant told police officers that he had "lost his cool" when his three-month old baby started to choke on his food.

He had shaken him and then in a fit of rage or frustration had thrown the baby in the direction of his pram some four feet away where it stood against the wall. He knew that the baby's head had hit something hard but denied any intention of throwing him against the wall and had not wanted him to die.

The case for the appellant was that he had not intended that the baby should suffer serious physical harm and therefore had not had the intent required for murder.

In summing up the judge directed the jury that they might infer intention if they were satisfied that when the defendant threw the child he appreciated that there was a substantial risk that he would cause serious harm to him. On appeal it was contended that the judge should have used the phrase "a virtual certainty" rather than "a substantial risk" because the latter was the test of recklessness rather than intent.

Their Lordships, having considered section 8 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, were of the opinion that two points emerged from the wording of that section:

First, Parliament recognised that a court or jury could infer that a defendant intended a result of his actions by reason of its being a natural and probable result of those actions, but was not bound to do so.

Second, in deciding whether the defendant intended the natural and probable result of his actions, the court or jury was to take into account all the evidence, drawing such inferences from the evidence as appeared proper.

In their Lordships' judgment, although the use of the phrase "a virtual certainty" might be desirable and necessary, it was only necessary where the evidence of intent was limited to the admitted actions of the accused and the consequence of those actions.

It was not obligatory to use that phrase or one that meant the same thing in cases such as the present where there was other evidence for the jury to consider.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Leeds North.

Deutsche Telekom 'near to cable deal'

By Eric Reguly

DEUTSCHE TELEKOM is thought to be close to forming a cable alliance that could emerge as the prime competitor to Mercury Communications in the lucrative business market.

Deutsche Telekom, the monopoly phone company that is to be privatised by the German Government in the autumn, is considering buying a stake — thought to be no more than 30 per cent — in Bell Cablemedia, the third largest cable company.

Bell Cablemedia would then launch a takeover bid for Videotron, the sixth largest player. Videotron, controlled by Groupe Videotron, of Montreal, has been on the auction block for several months and is widely expected to fall into Bell Cablemedia's hands because it already owns 20 per cent. None of the companies would comment.

Observers said that the deal, if it succeeds, would create a formidable force in the corporate telecoms market because the franchises of Bell Cablemedia and Videotron cover Westminster, the City of London, and Canary Wharf.

The cable companies, in turn, would have an instant overseas partner in Deutsche Telekom, Europe's biggest phone company.

Deutsche Telekom would also give the cable companies international access through Global One, the alliance that it recently formed with France Telecom and Sprint, America's third largest long-distance phone carrier.

Analysts and telecoms experts said that a Deutsche Telekom cable alliance could pose a significant competitive threat to Mercury Communications, which has largely abandoned the residential market and makes the bulk of its income from City and business customers.

Mercury may feel betrayed if the deal goes ahead. Cable and Wireless, its parent, owns 12.8 per cent of Bell Cablemedia and has two seats on its board.

In recent months, Bell Cablemedia and Mercury had been taking steps to combine some of their services.

Mercury insiders said that the arrival of Deutsche Telekom has put a strain on the relationship.

C&W's ownership of Bell Cablemedia is not high enough to block a deal. Bell Canada International, with 42 per cent, and Jones Intercable of Denver, with 12.3 per cent, are thought to be supportive of the transaction.

George Magan has seen his firm give advice on 22 deals

Hambro Magan is best in sector

By Jason Nissé

J O HAMBRO MAGAN, the corporate finance boutique founded by George Magan, the former Morgan Grenfell leading light, has emerged as the most successful independent corporate finance house in the first survey of the sector.

Phoenix Securities, whose founder, Sir John Craven, left to rescue Morgan Grenfell, Botts & Co, the media specialists with links to Herbert Allen, the Wall Street financier, and Broadview Associates, a specialist information technology house, also figured strongly in an analysis to be published in *Acquisitions Monthly* tomorrow.

Specialist boutiques are becoming increasingly important in the City, taking many of the deals that the larger merchant banks cannot handle either because of conflicts or because the larger firms think the deals are too small.

However some of the largest bids of the past couple of years have been led by specialist firms. Hambro Magan advised Swiss Bank Corporation on its purchase of S G Warburg, Rhône-Poulenc Rorer on its bid for Fisons and United News & Media on its merger with MAI Group.

Acquisitions Monthly found that Hambro Magan advised on 22 deals worth £6.9 billion in the 18 months to June this year, putting it at number 13 in the list of all advisers, while Phoenix worked on 23 deals worth £1.52 billion.

TOP TEN

Boutique	Deals	Value, £m
JO Hambro Magan	22	6,914
Phoenix Securities	23	1,517
Botts & Co	1	1,487
Broadview Associates	36	1,248
Apax Partners	20	366
Dawnay Day	9	207
Anvil Partners	6	201
Regent Associates	38	177
Cavendish Corp Finance	17	127
Livingstone Guarantee	22	78

Source: Acquisitions Monthly

Mail order shopping declines

The home shopping market fell last year, according to Verdict. The retail consultant claims that the industry has held vast amounts of useful information on customers for years, but has failed to capitalise on it. Such information could be used to produce smaller, better-targeted catalogues.

Instead, says Verdict: "The major companies remain firmly wedded to cumbersome 1,000-page books which seek to be all things to all men — or in the case of the vast majority of mail order agents, women." Home shopping sales in 1995 totalled £7.3 billion, the study calculates, a fall of 2.1 per cent on the previous year.

Eastern drive

New car sales in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union are set to double to nearly three million within the next decade, according to a report published today. Carol Thomas, co-editor of *East European Automotive Industry Forecast Report*, predicts that annual new car demand in these countries will rise to 2.9 million from 1.4 million.

Airport study

A study commissioned by Enlightened Competition, a *little-known free-market* think-tank, says the construction and operation of Terminal 5 at Heathrow should be put out to tender. The think-tank says BAA has a monopoly, and has threatened legal action if the airport operator is given approval to build and run the terminal.

Imro on Net

Imro, the watchdog for fund managers, has become the first City regulator to launch its own Internet site (http://www.imro.co.uk) as fears grow that investors could be conned into handing over money to fraudsters.

US trend likely to set a positive tone

Although gilt investors may have drawn some comfort from last week's data showing a further fall in manufacturing output, the domestic environment is likely to turn increasingly adverse for the fixed interest market over the next few months. The consumer side of the economy is already pretty strong: retail sales are growing at an annual rate of between 2.5 and 3 per cent, and the housing market is at last enjoying a meaningful recovery. More significantly, there are now also some indications that this buoyant picture will soon spread to the lacklustre industrial sector.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the latest dip in output was, at least in part, a result of the corporate sector's desire to lower inventory holdings. In addition, survey material is turning increasingly positive.

The purchasing managers index rose to 50.9 in July, from 47.7 in May, and the latest CBI quarterly survey concluded that output expectations are now stronger than at any time since the second quarter of 1988. Although this report has, over the past year, tended towards the over-optimistic, the extent of the turnround, coupled with the rise in business confidence, points quite emphatically towards an improving manufacturing climate.

In view of this, it is not unreasonable to assume that growth in the domestic economy will accelerate over the next six to nine months. Such an outcome need not threaten the benign inflation environment, but, at the very least, it is likely to justify the cautious message on interest rates evident in the Bank of England's recent *Inflation Report*.

The other key area of concern for gilts is the direction of policy ahead of a general election. Although Kenneth Clarke has tried to reassure investors that the Government will not take risks with the economy, there remains a lingering suspicion that, with the Conservatives still trailing in opinion polls, something will have to be done. Whether this means further interest rate cuts or significant tax reductions is anybody's guess, but there remains deep scepticism that the Chancellor will follow the austere example set by Roy Jenkins in 1970. Policy driven by political considerations and coupled with robust recovery in economic activity is plainly not good news for the gilt market.

However, in the coming months, external influences are likely to be as important for the market as domestic factors, if not more important, and chief among external influences will be the

GILT-EDGED

trend in US interest rates. The Fed may no longer consider the case for pushing up the Funds rate to be as compelling as it appeared even a month ago. The advance GDP figures for the second quarter of the year, though now history, contained an important surprise in the accompanying price indices. These showed that the measured rates of inflation were not only much lower than expected, but below levels in the corresponding period a year ago. The evidence is that wage pressures to which the Fed chairman referred in his recent Humphrey-Hawkins Testimony are being largely offset by productivity increases. The US economy is, therefore, able to progress against a backdrop of low and stable inflation.

On the face of it, there is no urgency for the Fed to raise interest rates. But will interest have to rise at all? Probably not if growth slows. Wishful thinking? Maybe. Companies continue to meet resistance to price rises. Their sales growth is modest and slowing, and much of the expansion in profit margins is from sustained efforts to curb costs. Business investment is already growing at its slowest since the recovery from the last recession. Any weakness in demand could reverse the recent trend of employment. Consumer spending will soften. Increasingly, talk could turn to disinflation and the prospect of relaxation in monetary policy. The bond market will rally on anticipation of these developments. Watch the dollar. The forex markets are as good a guide as any on the outlook for interest rates. At present, the less steady tone of the dollar suggests that pressure for a rate rise is easing.

So what does this imply for gilts? Although the domestic pull is likely to be broadly negative, the external influence could be surprisingly supportive. A return to yields above 8 per cent cannot be ruled out if the Chancellor is perceived to have thrown caution to the wind in his management of either monetary or fiscal policy. Any resurgence in inflation would provoke a similar response. The risks are clear. Whether they materialise is another matter. Meanwhile, the favourable trend in US Treasuries is likely to set a positive tone in the gilt market. Greater uncertainty may require a widening in yield differentials, but is unlikely to prevent the market participating in a US-inspired rally.

Mike Lenhoff and Simon Rubinsohn
Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.09	1.93
Austria Sch	17.20	15.70
Belgium Fr	50.45	46.15
Canada $	2.235	2.075
Cyprus Cyp£	0.749	0.694
Denmark Kr	9.48	8.68
Finland Mkk	7.51	6.86
France Fr	8.36	7.61
Germany Dm	2.46	2.25
Greece Dr	383	358
Hong Kong $	12.65	11.65
Iceland	113	93
Ireland Pt	1.01	0.93
Israel Shk	5.27	4.62
Italy Lira	2469	2314
Japan Yen	182.30	166.30
Malta	0.596	0.541
Netherlds Gld	2.735	2.505
New Zealand $	2.40	2.18
Norway Kr	10.49	9.69
Portugal Esc	248.00	229.50
S Africa Rd	7.82	6.82
Spain Pta	202.50	189.50
Sweden Kr	10.95	10.15
Switzerland Fr	2.01	1.83
Turkey Lira	132770	124770
USA $	1.651	1.521

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5496 (+0.0071)
German mark
2.2908 (+0.0113)
Exchange index
84.6 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2796.3 (+23.9)
FT-SE 100
3810.7 (+40.1)
New York Dow Jones
5681.31 (+1.48)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
20551.05 (-389.36)

AIM breaks through the £4bn barrier

THE Alternative Investment Market's capitalisation has broken the £4 billion barrier after more than £178 million was raised last month, against £77.2 million in June.

Although there were no new issues last week, trading on existing stocks gathered pace, with the FT-SE AIM index rising 19.4 points during the week to close at 1,060.

Firecrest, whose shares recently returned from suspension, was heavily traded on rumours that it is about to name Lehman as its new broker, exposing it to new investors. Shares in Trocadero, the leisure group, rose 9p to 79p on rumours that it may secure sponsorship deals with Pepsi and Marvel Comics for its indoor theme park.

New issues return this week, with the placing of Chemical Design at 110p per share. However, SkyNet, the car protection company currently trading on Ofex, has decided to pull its flotation.

Fraser Nelson

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 34

AICH
(b) An alloy of copper, zinc and iron, used in gun-making. An eponym of the patentee, Johann *Aich* (3 February, 1860). "Aich's Metal is a brass of the 60/40 type that has good casting properties."

DOP
(c) In full, *dop brandy*, made from grape skins and fiery rough. The Afrikaans word. "Jim got his daily number of tots of poisonous dop brandy."

CROCKFORD
(c) A colloquial designation of *Crockford's Clerical Directory*, a reference book for the clergy and the Church of England, first issued in 1860 by John Crockford. Not to be confused with the exclusive gambling club opened in St James's Street, London, in 1827 by William *Crockford* (1775-1844). "In more distant vicarages there were anxious searchings of the *Guardian* and *Crockford*."

EN-SOPH
(a) In Cabbalistic doctrine, the absolute infinite and incomprehensible God. From the Greek for "One-Wise-Thing". "The chief heads of the Cabbalistic Doctrine are these. The Being from whom all things proceed is a Spirit, uncreated, eternal, existing by the necessity of its nature, and filling the immensity of space. This spirit is En-Soph, the Infinite Deity."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rxd5! Wins quickly. One possible variation is 1 ... exd5 2 Qf6+ Kd7 3 Qxf7+ Qe7 4 Bb5+ Kd8 5 Rg8+ and White emerges a piece ahead

NEC
NEC Corporation
The Annual Report of NEC Corporation for the year ended 31st March, 1996 is available upon request. Please direct enquiries to the address below.
PR Office
NEC Europe Ltd.
76 Shoe Lane, London EC4A 3JB
Telephone: 0171-353-4383 Fax: 0171-353-4384

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

1996 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
148	132	14.80	AFA Systems	148	+15		
134	109	16.00	AMCO Corp	112	−2	5.6	15.7
78	72	15.40	AND Intl Pubg	72			
58	18	2.37	Abacus Recruit	43			
161	115	24.00	Active Imaging	131			
210	123	29.50	A de Gruchy	200	−5	3.8	15.6
20¼	7¼	17.50	African Gold	17	+3		38.0
21½	13	6.06	Albemarle & Bd	16	+½		
58	33	8.64	Alizyme	50	+5		
24	12	8.86	Alpha Omikron	12			
480	380	46.00	Ann St Brewery	480		4.8	12.9
985	885	5.78	Ann St Cv Pf	975	−10	8.3	
121	48	36.50	Antonov	50	−1		
9	8	1.89	Arion Props	8			
81	33	32.90	Ashurst	38	+5		
141	68	22.30	Ask Central	138			
63	55	1.08	Athelney Trust	60			
135	123	41.30	BATM Adv Comms	133	+3		
6½	5½	7.72	Ballynafray	6	+½		44.1
46	38	3.37	Belcanto	38			
150	140	0.99	Bowness Leis	145		3.9	7.1
70	70		Bown Leis Cv Pf	70			
70	41	10.40	Brancote Hdgs	60	+10		
503	240	56.70	Brockbank	473		1.9	
125	116	13.30	CA Coutts Hldgs	125	+2		11.8
130	116	1.04	CCI Hldgs	130			7.2
110	110	0.13	CCI Founder Shs	110			
213	95	4.86	Cate Inns	170	−2	1.8	14.1
75	55	7.76	Caledonian Tst	65			7.9
3½	2	2.30	Capital & Wstn	2½	−¼		
98	68	14.30	Cardcast	88	+10	0.7	19.9
43	29	19.30	Card Clear	43	+5		
108	91	9.63	Carisbrooke Ship	95	+2		8.2
72	58	3.17	Cassidy Bros	58		6.5	
48	41	2.09	Cavendish W	48		3.9	23.1
21	16	6.96	Celebrated Group	21	+2	1.6	
£325	6550	79.70	Celtic	£275	+1000		
£275	6450		Celtic Pf Shs	£225	+1000		
124	109	15.90	Cl Comms(TV)	118		2.8	
86	61	7.38	Chartwell Intl	65			
100	53	116.10	Chelsea Village	90	+2		
185	173	19.10	Circle Comms	176	+1		
140	131	21.60	Cirqual	131		5.6	11.2
110	110	0.99	Clan Homes	110			63.6
35	28	13.90	ClubPartners	33			
510	500	12.00	Com de Prl Fin	500			
19	15	8.94	Concurrent Tech	19			
100	100	0.25	Conc Tech A Prf	100			
100	100	0.20	Conc Tech B Prf	100			
125	125	0.84	Conc Tech Rd Pf	125			
225	225	0.17	Conc Tech Cv Pf	225			
44	37	8.80	Consler Tst	40		5.0	10.0
86	58	15.70	Country Gdns	85		2.0	16.4
83	68	2.49	Cntry Gdns Pf	68		9.8	
109	57	23.00	Creos Intl	64			
63	43	22.20	Crown Products	49	+1		
377	152	27.90	DBS Management	370	+5	4.1	11.0
36	32		Dalkeith Inns	32			
75	61	3.30	David Glass	61		10.2	8.3
1700	860	90.70	Dawson Hdgs	1625		2.5	14.3
17	11	5.17	Dean Corp	12		2.1	
375	305	34.40	Dicom	335			77.3
111	78	16.20	Digital Anmtn	110	+25		
77	60	13.10	Dmatek	70			
4	4	3.07	Drings of Bath	4			
137	48	8.41	Easynet	59	+7		
198	148	41.60	Elec Retail Sys	198	+25		
200	85	57.40	Electrophoretics	88	−2		
116	61	21.20	Epic Multimedia	91	+1		
125	120	5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125			
475	325		Farlake	445			
53	41	2.52	Fayrewood	48			
138	106	41.30	Fibernet	111	+1		
65	58	2.90	Fieldens	58			
260	75	5.77	Finl Pubis	245			
188	43	14.10	Firecrest	60			25.6
183	168	34.10	First Infor	168	−2		
245	188	5.38	Florences	210	+5	1.5	
343	253	7.52	Floral St	293	+5	0.4	13.3
193	136	16.90	Formscan	160		1.6	20.8
35½	14	115.70	Freepages	31½	−2		
143	93	7.98	Furlong Homes	133	−3	2.3	11.8
12½	8¼	35.70	Gander Hdgs	12¼	+¼		
21	16	23.30	Gold Mines Sard	18			
12	8	5.36	Gold Mines Sard Wts	10			
22	9	2.70	Greenhills	9			
150	145	33.40	Guilon	148		3.4	12.8
199	169	22.20	HIT Entert	199	+10		64.6
41	18	2.04	Hansom	20	+2		
68	53	2.69	Hat Pin	61	−3	5.6	11.3
65	50	1.27	Hercules Prop	50			
275	155	6.37	Heavitree	275		2.6	17.0
255	180	10.70	Heavitree A	245		2.9	15.1
138	120	157.60	Hiscox	128		2.4	
80	65	0.82	Hurlingham	70			
297	190	30.40	IES	200	+10	0.4	
280	175	3.71	IES Warrants	180	+5		
96	65	18.90	Ind Brit Hlthcre	74			
134	105	12.70	Indpt Radio	127			
88	63	11.40	Inner Workings	68			
88	63	15.20	Intelligent Envir	68	−5		
568	503	23.80	Intl Greetings	568	+10	3.3	11.8
160	108	35.80	IOC Intl	146	−4		
103	83	4.08	Jasmin	100	+2		11.7
320	280	21.50	Jennings Bros	292		2.7	21.0
74¼	48½	5.48	Jordec	61	−1¾		11.9
5½	3½	5.70	Just Group	4¼	+¼		
3	2	0.36	Just Group Wts	2			
125	93	39.10	KS Biomedix	93			
160	133	45.60	La Senza	136	+3		
180	137	28.20	Lancashire En	155		3.2	14.2
300	210	15.20	Lawrence	250		0.8	
3750	2550	60.70	Lawrie Group	3250		2.7	13.7
290	255	46.90	Le Riches Strs	283		7.1	15.3
15	12	0.60	Life Numbers	12	−3		
6	2	0.16	Life Numbrs Wts	5	−1		
95	85		London Asia Pc	85			
70	55	1.38	London Town	55			
346¾	192½	30.80	Lorien Grp	270		1.7	22.5
4¼	4	7.35	Lotteryking	4¼			30.9
1½	1	0.26	Lotteryking Wts	1½			
25	15	10.10	Manx & O'seas	17		2.4	23.0
135	90	10.90	Marine & Merc S	90			
125	110	2.51	Matrix Hlthcare	110			
117	92	43.30	Megalomedia	94			
99	79		Megalomedia Wts	84			
113	86	7.18	Mellek	103		3.0	14.7
475	45	30.90	Memory Corp	51			
22	18	4.66	Metrodome Films	19			
235	156	16.70	Moorepay	220	+10	2.7	18.9
200	67½	7.42	Mountcashel	98	+3		20.4
203	148	30.30	Mulberry Group	153			
89	53	16.40	MultiMedia	57	−1		
19	17	1.25	NECA	17			
340	285	23.40	NWF Grp	310	−5	3.3	
210	175	14.10	Nash (Wm)	200	+5	4.2	8.6
360	330	8.72	Neill Clerk	340		2.9	12.6
470	200	11.10	Nelson Cobbold	405	−10	1.7	20.2
165	118	48.80	Network Tech	157	+14		
101	65		Norcity II	93			
73	63		Norhomes	70	+2		35.0
76	51	5.84	Nthn Petlm	51			
8	8	0.13	Nthn Petlm Wts	8			
70	53		Nthmb Res Prps	53		2.4	
116	111	17.50	Nursing Home	113		1.3	32.1
147	85¾	17.80	Old English Pub	116		1.1	50.7
136	84	12.80	Omnicare	108	+5	0.6	
75	43	12.30	Omnimedia	50	+2		
123	66	24.60	Optical Care	106			
3¼	1	28.40	Pacific Media	2¼	+¼		
263	43		Pacific Med Pf	235			
125	17¼	50.60	Pan Andean Res	123	+25		
200	180	4.78	Park Ests(Liv)	200		3.1	
445	360	93.40	Pet City	385	+15		
337½	100	62.80	Philippine Gd	213	+½		
184	107	29.80	Polymasc Pharms	149	+27		
4	3½	8.19	Pordum Foods	3¾	−¼		
2	1½	0.38	Pordum Fds Wts	1¾			
565	400	6.70	Preston Nth E	520			
105	101	16.50	Primary Hlth Pr	103			
305	180	34.50	Prism Rail	265			
67	32	5.66	Raphael Zm	63		2.5	39.5
140	43	8.55	Reflec	124	+9		
6	4¾	1.61	Revelation Pic	5½			0.6
18	16	11.20	Riceman Insce	17			
98	63	4.03	Romtec	78	+2		
4½	3	2.70	Rushmere Wynne	3			
1¾	0¾	0.14	Rush Wyn Wts	1½			
163	151	19.00	SCI Ent	163	+7		
126	31	3.19	SCS Satellite	31			
75	68	15.40	SEA Multimedia	68			
31	20	1.95	Scotswood Inds	28		4.5	26.5
39	23	4.16	Scott Pickford	33	−1	3.4	12.7
68	28	10.40	Scott Pride	33	−10		
320	270	14.60	Scrutons	305		5.3	
70	66	13.30	Selector	68			
60	25	1.46	Self Sealing	25	−10		
3	2		Silkbarn	2¼	+¼		
174	164	20.90	Sinclair Montrs	172			
5	3½	8.24	Sira Bus Serv	4			
1½	1½	0.29	Sira Bus Wrts	1½			
91	83	5.31	Solid State Sp	85			
595	524	128.90	Southern News	535	+5	3.7	14.1
68	50		Southern Vectis	68			
289	225	32.90	Staffware	284	+5		
615	255	79.70	Stanford Rook	413	+85		
201	75	12.80	Stentor	181	−5		
315	122	28.30	Surrey Fr Inns	267	+7	0.9	31.4
136	73	10.50	Syst Integ Rsch	78			
915	415	28.30	TRACKER Netwk	535	+40		
185	125	26.90	Tradepoint Fcl	125	−15		
55	38	5.77	Tele Cred Eur	51			
43	25		Tele Cred Wts	38			
138	81	13.40	Theo Fennell	83	+2		
116	73	16.00	Toad	95	−1		
56	43	3.13	Tom Hoskins	51	−2		
180	160	4.88	Trinity Care	160		3.8	9.7
170	165		Trinity Care Pf	170			
79	46	392.60	Trocadero	79	+8		
179	143	23.50	UNO	168	+2		39.0
42	40	3.65	Univent	40			18.4
458	373	6.82	Utd Auctions	383		1.3	
201¼	147¼	20.20	VDC	195		3.0	14.2
19½	13½	47.70	Versailles Grp	19½	+1	1.2	20.6
650	130	10.70	Viewinn	355	+75		
428	232	8.05	Voss	300			
20	13	3.58	Watermark	19			
15	7		Wedderburn Secs	10			
5	3		Wedd Secs Wrnts	4			
125	120	4.83	West 175	125			
19	13	6.82	Western Selectn	13			47.9
6	5	0.31	Western Sel Wrt	5			
31	26	3.16	Westmount Engy	30	+2		48.5
95	90	3.71	Whitecroftes	90			
163	140	23.00	Whittard Chelsea	145	+5		
75	46	5.87	W'chester M Md	53			
145	100		Wynnstay Props	120		4.7	16.9
12	9	5.49	Xavier Comp	10½	−½		
300	170	20.30	Zergo	220			

中国出口商品交易会
THE CHINESE EXPORT COMMODITIES FAIR
30
the 80th Session
Autumn'96
Covering a total floor space of 160,000 sqm., the current Chinese Export Commodities Fair is divided into six specialized exhibition halls, which are subdivided into 33 exhibition districts. The exhibits are displayed under six categories, i.e., Foodstuffs and Native Produce & Animal By-products; Light Industrial Products and Arts & Crafts; Textiles & Garments; Metals & Minerals and Chemical Products; Medicines & Health Products; Mechanical & Electronic Products. Thousands of Chinese foreign trade corporations (enterprises), who are of good credibility and sound financial capabilities, display more than 100,000 varieties of commodities here.
For invitation application or further information, please contact directly with China Foreign Trade Centre(Group) or the Commercial Counsellor's Offices / Sections of the local Chinese Embassies / Consulates or China Travel Service(H.K.) Ltd. and its overseas branches.
Business people from all parts of the world are welcome to the Fair.
Time: October 15th-30th, 1996
Sponsor: Chinese foreign trade enterprises
Organizer: China Foreign Trade Centre (Group)
Add: 117 Liuhua Road, Guangzhou, P. R. China
Tel: 86-20-86678000 Ext. 87621, 87631, 86661664
Cable: CECFA GUANGZHOU
Fax: 86-20- 83335880,86665851

No smoke without fire on tobacco's bumpy road

Tobacco had a bad weekend. Late on Friday, a Florida jury unexpectedly found that Lucky Strike cigarettes had been a dangerous and defective product. US tobacco stocks fell a tenth in after-hours trading on Wall Street. After umpteen attempts, this was only the second time a US manufacturer had been ruled liable for its customer's lung cancer. A day later Cigar, America's popular wonder horse, ended its winning streak on the racetrack, despite being odds-on to win. It seemed symbolic.

Tobacco groups are trying to put the Grady Carter judgment in perspective. The only other case they lost was reversed on appeal. They claim strong legal grounds to appeal this one. It only covered smoking of Lucky *Strike between 1947 and 1972*, and might not set a big precedent.

Those who bought US tobacco stocks at the bottom may well make a short-term profit. Britain's BAT Industries, which added American Tobacco, *maker of Lucky Strike*, to its Brown & Williamson brands in 1994, was not traded in Friday's panic. Its shares will fall this morning, but probably not so far.

Like other cigarette makers in America, BAT *has used its formidable* cash flow to diversify. It made £1 billion operating profit from insurance last year, enough to pay most of its dividend. Philip Morris is now one of the world's biggest food *companies. Cigarette sales are still* growing fast in Eastern Europe and some Asian markets. Big Tobacco also has a formidable defensive arsenal to withstand the siege. This year, it won a victory when a US class action was ruled out of court.

As companies' lowly stock market ratings illustrate, however, there is a *feeling that even Byzantium must* eventually fall to the irresistible forces pressing at its gates. New documents might supply heavier artillery. And if enough health authorities and dying smokers try, *they reason, someone will eventually* find the weak spot.

The Carter case is one of 200 round America being prepared by campaigners as an alternative to the class action. They are not motivated *merely by attempts to secure cash* for sick clients. Mr Carter's lawyer sees the lawsuits as a powerful "weapon of social change".

In a land that takes libertarianism to the point of perversity, moralistic *witchhunts are equally traditional.* Persecution of the quarter of Americans who smoke is the equivalent of McCarthyism in the 1950s or prohibition a generation earlier. The temperance lobby won its ban, *though that failed. Two proponents* of McCarthy's thought purge went on to rule the White House for 14

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

years. McCarthyism was fear. Cigarettes indisputably kill many people, even if argument rages on how *physically addictive they are.*

When some of the world's largest, most pragmatic and otherwise respectable corporations find that their 400-year-old product is lethal, there are deals to be struck. But *when a moral crusade meets siege* defence, compromise is hard to find.

The battle against smoking could have three objectives: to compensate victims and pay for their treatment; to persuade the young not to take up *smoking and smokers to give up; to* close the industry down and end the dangers to health. These aims can be contradictory. As finance ministers know, if you want cash for victims and treatment, you need a living industry making money to tap, much as an ant milks an aphid. Otherwise the industry might disap*pear, as US (though not British)* asbestos firms have. It would not be hard to orphan tobacco liabilities.

Government health warnings, in place for a generation to cut demand, have given the industry its *strongest legal protection. Without* them, it might have been sued to extinction in the West. Campaigners logically also oppose potentially less dangerous new products, such as RJ Reynolds' smokeless "Eclipse", and *make no distinction between cigarettes* and pipes and cigars, which are statistically less lethal. Forcing Big Tobacco out of the business by lawsuits would not stop people smoking unless sales were banned. *Little tobacco would fill the gap.*

In America, at least, it is not hard to outlaw tobacco. If cigarettes were classified as a nicotine delivery mechanism, the Food and Drug Administration could hardly pass *them as safe. But, as Americans* know from the 1920s, prohibition would breed crime and draw young people to other dangerous drugs. Already, there are signs of a backlash against anti-smoking moves.

Given those graphic warnings, vast sales of tobacco as a drug of choice cannot be blamed only on clever marketing or addiction. Cigarettes help confidence-starved adolescents of all ages to cope. Addiction *studies claim smoking aids mental* alertness and concentration. This column required a pipe. If car drivers all smoked them, road rage should disappear overnight, if only to be replaced by passenger rage.

Sadly, people will continue to want mood-affecting drugs. Experience suggests none will be safe in long-term use. Rules to curb smoking should recognise this. Tony Blair favours a straight ban on *cigarette advertising. In America,* brand leader Philip Morris has suggested a tougher law against sales to young people, along with bans on vending machines, small packets, posters near schools and *promotional material. These suit* brand leaders and state monopolies.

To phase out conventional cigarettes, sales might also be banned to anyone born after today, or the beginning of 1990. That would give *time and incentive to develop tobac*co products or even other drugs with fewer deadly side-effects.

Far more likely, the war of attrition — and steady profits — will continue. As pessimists might note, *the coming generation of leaders* was born when smoking among pregnant women was at its height.

Alasdair Murray *on initiatives from a nation with more to it than Guinness*

Spring in the step of the Irish

At first glance, *Riverdance* may seem a more natural candidate for a Laurence Olivier award than for accolades about its role in regenerating the Irish economy. The show, a blend of traditional and modern Irish music and dance, has been a huge hit in the West End, as well as spawning a chart-topping single, a best-selling video and countless showbiz stories.

*However, Maria O'Sulli*van, project manager for Lir FM, an Irish radio station bidding for the latest London FM franchise, is convinced that *Riverdance* has had a *more lasting cultural and eco*nomic impact, paving the way for the development of businesses such as her own. She says: "You can't underestimate the importance of *Riverdance*. It has had a huge promotional impact."

The Irish are the largest ethnic minority in Britain. Although putting a number on the Irish in Britain is complicated by their tendency quickly to blend into the rest of the population, recent estimates are of six million first-generation or second-generation Irish. However, until the past couple of years, there has been no real attempt to tap into this huge potential market, beyond the creation of a few forbidding pubs. In contrast, the US has for many years had businesses chasing the "green dollars" of the 44 million self-proclaimed Irish Americans.

Riverdance **is seen as setting the stage for Irish broadcasters coming to the UK to try to attract Britons and the UK's Irish community alike**

Suddenly, however, businesses have decided to chase the "green pound" in the UK. RTE, the Irish broadcaster, is helping to back Tara, an Irish-themed cable station, and there have been two consortiums bidding to run an Irish-style radio station on the latest London FM franchise. The Irish financial services sector has also come looking for new custom in the UK, and Irish travel companies have tapped into the growing desire of the Irish community to make regular trips home.

These businesses are trying to take advantage of some fundamental changes in the Irish community in the UK. Until recently, Irish immigrants arriving in the UK were *often impoverished and poorly* educated. Given the uneasy political relations between the two countries, they also tended to keep a low profile in their adopted country.

However, the Irish Republic has changed dramatically in the past decade, becoming a more outward-looking, self-confident nation, and Irish immigrants arriving in the UK reflect that change.

Harry Doherty, secretary of the Irish Club of Great Britain, says: "Many of the Irish population in the UK are now graduates and professionals. They are not going abroad out of necessity and in the UK they are coming out of their shells and reclaiming their heritage."

Ms O'Sullivan says: "The Irish community is more and more organised. It has a greater sense of its own voice."

Riverdance and other Irish cultural contributions, from U2 to the Irish film industry, have had an important role in this transformation. Irishness has become far more marketable throughout Europe. Irish bars, well-designed and friendly, are springing up across Europe at about one a week.

The Irish Republic has become a popular *tourist destination.* Cathal O'Doherty, who is helping to establish the Tara cable station, says: "Ireland has become much more hip these days. Dublin is now *officially competing with* Prague, Amsterdam and Paris as a 'cool' weekend destination."

The increasing cultural importance of Ireland has been matched by its remarkable economic performance over the past few years. The country's GDP grew by more than 10 per cent last year, the fastest rate in the industrialised world, and it is predicted to continue growing by about 6.5 per cent this year. By the end of this year, GDP will have risen by about a quarter since the start of 1994, with the number of people in work up by 122,000.

A far stronger Irish corporate sector is keen to flex its muscles in new markets. Inevitably, the UK with its linguistic and geographical ties with the Irish Republic has proved an attractive destination for new investment. It also has the advantage of having an increasingly affluent Irish population.

The Tara cable station is being launched next month and aims to reach ten million homes over the next few years. The channel is majority-*owned by United Internation*al Holdings, a cable company based in the us that has invested £10 million in the project. United is convinced that not only is there a *definable Irish market waiting* to be reached, but that plenty of advertisers are willing to buy airtime.

Mr O'Doherty says: "There are a lot of potential advertisers in the financial services, drinks and travel sectors who are keen to reach a niche market this way."

Tara is also being backed by RTE, the Irish television station, which will provide most of the programming for it. RTE has an annual programming spend of £115 million, similar to the prospective spend of the new Channel 5 in the UK, and Tara believes that it will be able to attract a broad audience through the quality of its programmes. However, Mr O'Doherty emphasises that the station will not be aimed just at the Irish community. "It will provide a broad mix of entertainment with an Irish flavour rather than simply trying to repro*duce RTE in the UK," he said.* "We hope to attract other viewers who have an interest in Irish culture."

Lir FM, the potential Irish radio station in London, has a *similar strategy. Lir — backed* by three Irish radio companies and a private UK investor — hopes to tap into the estimated 600,000 people of Irish descent in the capital, but will also try *to tempt the thousands who* enjoy Irish entertainment such as *Riverdance*.

Only time will tell whether ventures such as Tara and Lir succeed. However, Jennie Halsall, a media consultant for *Riverdance*, believes that optimism generated by the show will prove infectious. "Until *Riverdance* came along, Irish business was almost entirely associated with Guinness," she says. "But now, there is a recognition that there are major opportunities in entertainment, food, drink and media. One day, Irish-themed businesses will be huge."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

City guns go quiet

WILL anyone in the City celebrate the Glorious Twelfth? Sir Rocco Forte, who was shaving before a pheasant shoot on the Yorkshire Moors when he heard that Granada had put in a bid for his hotel group, won't be. His secretary said: "He's away, and he won't be shooting." Gavin Casey, chief executive of the Stock Exchange, says he will be too busy in his new job. Christopher Rodrigues, gun-wielding chief executive of Bradford & Bingley, and Sir Alick Rankin, Scottish & Newcastle's chairman, will also be too busy to shoot.

NOT such a Glorious Twelfth for staff at the Pension Ombudsman's office. The DSS has announced that it plans to cut the salaries of the ombudsman's investigators by up to a third, reducing senior employees' salaries from about £31,000 to £21,000.

A dry number

CHRISTIE'S wine sales amassed a record £17 million in 1995-96 season, making it the most successful in the wine department's 30-year history — and we have a fair idea why. A mysterious buyer from the US, who was among the highest bidders, picked up a bill of about £50,000. But when Paul Bowker, head of Christie's wine department, took the East Coast call, he could hardly hear the caller. "It was one of the most expensive wines, and I knew it was early in the morning over there," explains Bowker. "When I told him I was having difficulty, he said he'd try taking his phone outside the shower."

PETER ROBINSON, the former chief executive of the Woolwich Building Society, who lost his job over allegations that he borrowed the company Range Rover and decorated his £450,000 Kent home with the help of Woolwich decorators, is adding fuel to rumours that the Man from the Pru has been in touch to ask his sage advice. But would the Pru be so unwise as to approach the man who branded new Woolwich savers "carpetbaggers", and risk alienating the board of the building society it is believed to want to buy?

Executive action

WHAT do you do if you are a busy chief executive whose train is cancelled the day after your company's results meeting in the capital? Malcolm Jones, of Bensons Crisps, who was furious with British Rail for its "poor communication" after last week's train crash, taxied from Euston to Heathrow, then took the shuttle to Manchester. He called his partner from his mobile, to make sure she could meet him at the airport. Nice work.

MORAG PRESTON

RADIO CHOICE

When Wolves settled scores

Games That Changed Football. *Radio 5 Live, 7.35pm.*

In a way, Byron Butler, former BBC football correspondent, was duty bound to fit this programme into his series. Last Monday night he dealt with Hungary's victory over England in 1953 — the home team's first-ever defeat by a continental team at Wembley. Revenge, though *not officially* at international level, was nonetheless sweet when it came the following year. What is more, it proved to be the catalyst that helped to bring about the birth of the European Cup in 1955. Honved, which included half of the Hungary team, played Wolves, it was one of several friendlies Wolves played against top continental clubs. They won 3-2, two of the goals being scored by Roy Swinbourne. He is one of the players Butler interviews tonight.

Composer of the Week. *Radio 3, 10am.*

Not a day goes by without some Beethoven on Radio 3. He is the current composer of the week. In my book, he is composer not just of the week but the month and even the year. However, today's Radio 3 listings suggest that the network has got cold feet about honouring *the genius from Bonn.* I quote from today's Radio 3 schedule: "11.30pm. *Composer of the Week:* Stravinsky." But that is enough impishness from me for one day. The simple truth is that the genius from Oranienbaum was *last* week's composer of the week and the late night Stravinsky programmes are just repeats. Perhaps Radio 3 should call them *Composer of Last Week.* **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **6.30am** Chris Evans **9.00** Kevin Greening **11.30** Radio 1 Roadshow, live from the beach in Weymouth **12.30pm** Lisa I'Anson **3.00** Dave Pearce, incl Newsbeat and at **6.30** The Nightly Dance Jam **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** In Concert: Pheonix '96 **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess **4.00am** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

FM Stereo **6.00** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Judi Spiers **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Steve Wright at the Movies **7.30** Malcolm Laycock **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** On the Air A new series with Sheila Tracy and the BBC Big Band under Barry Forgie (1/6) **10.30** The Jamesons, incl **11.58** Pause For Thought **12.05am** Sue McGarry **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, with Diana Madill **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sports Bulletin **7.35** Games that Changed Football. See Choice **8.05** Parkinson on Sport **9.05** Sportstrack **9.35** On the Job **10.05** News Talk **10.35** Radio 5 Live at the Fringe, Janice Forsyth reports from Edinburgh **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **1.05** The Race for the White House **4.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **5.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Sports Zone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST.** News on the hour. **5.30am** Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** Poems by Post **7.30** Andy Kershaw **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** The Vintage Chart Show **9.15** Good Looking **9.45** Music Through Stained Glass **10.05** Business **10.15** Anything Goes **10.45** Sport **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf **12.30** Omnibus **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Andy Kershaw **3.05** Outlook **3.30** John Peel **4.05** Sport **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.10** World Today **6.25** Take Five **6.30** News in German **7.30** Brain of Britain **9.00** News Summary **9.01** Outlook **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** Multitrack **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Legal Rights, Legal Wrongs **10.45** The World of Computers **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.10am** Take Five **12.15** Record News **12.30** Multitrack **1.30** Global Concerns **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Outlook **2.55** Words of Faith **3.30** Meridian **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Nick Bailey **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto Barber (Cello Concerto) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Newsnight **6.30** Sonata Mendelssohn (Cello Sonata No 1 in B flat major) **7.00** *Celebrity Choice* (r) **8.00** Evening Concert. MacCunn (Concert Overture: The Land of the Mountain and the Flood); David Foulis (Sonata No 3 in E); Bruch (Scottish Fantasy); Trad (Auld Scottish Songs from the Scots Musical Museum **10.30** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** *Randal Lee Rose*

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Franck (Sonata in A); Infante (Trois danses andalouses); J H Roman (Concerto Grosso in B flat); Telemann (Gulliver Suite); Rossini (Overture: The Silken Ladder); Ervin Schulhoff (Hot-Sonata)
9.00 Morning Collection with *Paul Gambaccini.* Includes Bach (Violin Concerto in A minor, BWV 1041); Donizetti (Favorita del re . . . Spirito gentil, La Favorita, Act 4); Villa-Lobos (Bachiana Brasileira No 4); Debussy, orch Caplet (La Boite à Joujoux)
10.00 Composer of the Week: Beethoven. See Choice
11.00 Edinburgh International Festival. Live from the Queen's Hall. Boje Skovhus, baritone, and Helmut Deutsch, piano, perform songs by Schubert, Schumann and Strauss **11.50** Festival Stooshies Colin Bell examines the development of the opera house in Edinburgh **12.10pm** Concert Part 2
1.00 Proms Chamber Music 1996. Peter Donohoe and Martin Ruscoe, pianos. Mozart, arr Grieg (Fantasia in C minor, K475); Debussy, arr Ravel (Nuages; Fêtes, Nocturnes), Lutoslawski (Variations on a Theme of Paganini), Grainger (Fantasy on Gershwin's Porgy and Bess)
2.05 The Ulster Orchestras, under En Shao With Torleif Thedeen, cello Holst (Egdon Heath); Dvořák (Cello Concerto in B minor); Ives (Symphony No 2)
3.45 Voices. The naturalist Sir David Attenborough talks to Iain Burnside about the songs he chooses to take on his expeditions
4.30 First Bass. Alyn Shipton continues his profile of the bassist Ray Brown (3/6)
5.00 The Music Machine, with Kit Hesketh-Harvey
5.15 *In Tune.* *Presented by* Andrew Green. Includes Purcell (Sonata No 9 in F, Z810); Respighi (Circuses, Roman Festivals); Mendelssohn (Baal, we cry to thee, Elijah)
7.30 BBC Proms 1996. Live from the Albert Hall in London. John Williams, guitar, BBC Singers and Symphony Chorus, Spanish National Youth Orchestra, under Edmond Colomer. Gerhard (The Plague) **8.15** The Shock of the Familiar **8.35** Proms Part 2. Rodrigo (Concierto de Aranjuez); Ravel (Bolero)
9.40 Cultural Baggage: Dogs A series which explores modern culture, focusing on individual themes (1/4) (r)
10.00 Ensemble. Introduced by Paul Hindmarsh Janet Hilton, clarinet, Bernard Gregor-Smith, cello, and Yolande Wrigley, piano Weber (Seven Variations from Silvana, Op 33); Onslow (Cello Sonata in C minor, Op 16 No 2)
10.45 Mixing It, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall
11.30 Composer of the Week: Igor Stravinsky (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Richard Niles Featuring the BBC Big Band under Rob McConnell
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** The Changing Forest. Dennis Potter's view of the Forest of Dean, read by Robert Glenister (1/5) **8.58** Weather
9.00 ***News 9.05 North of Watford.*** The first of three topical discussion programmes comes from Belfast. With Sean Rafferty and guests
10.00 News; Big Bang (FM), with Jez Nelson
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour
10.50 Test Match Special: England v Pakistan (LW). The final day's play from Headingley
11.30 Inside Money (FM) (5/6) (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours (FM), with Chris Choi
12.25pm Brain of Britain 1996 (FM) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (FM) (r) **1.55** Shipping
1.40 Test Match Special (LW)
2.00 News; True Blue (FM), by Jez Simons and Jyoti Patel The story of an Indian woman's struggle to become a Tory MP With Sudha Bhuchar, Aftab Sachak, William Boyd and Vanessa Rosenthal (r)
2.00 Test Match Special (LW)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift (FM).
4.00 News (FM) 4.05 Kaleidoscope (FM). Tim Marlow listens to a recording of Arvo Part's *Litany*
4.45 Short Story: Malvolio's Revenge (FM). Russell Hunter reads John Mortimer's tale
5.00 PM (FM) 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
5.55 Test Match Special (LW)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (FM)
6.30 Old Harry's Game (FM). A comedy series set in Hell by Andy Hamilton (5/6) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 One for the Pot. Lionel Kelleway presents a recipe containing, among other things, grey squirrel (3/4) (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Spell Number 7. Ntozake Shange's epic choreopoem, adapted for radio by Bonnie Greer. With Clarke Peters, Irene Cara and Shezwae Powell
9.00 Just a Part of the Furniture: The Bath. Claire Jenkins looks at what furniture can reveal about people's lives and personalities (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Owen Bennett Jones
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Washington Square. Tom Wilkinson reads Henry James's story Abridged by John Taylor (1/10)
11.00 No Illusions. Authors, film-makers and producers are increasingly blurring the line between fact and fiction. Why have reconstructions become so popular?
12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Secret History, by Donna Tartt Read by William Hope (11/15) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

A heart-rending, mind-blowing weekend

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

The way to imagine the brain, apparently, is as a blancmange inside a biscuit tin. This helpful image was provided by a neurosurgeon in the course of Kay Mellor's excellent two-hour drama **Some Kind of Life** (ITV) last night. It's an image which will live with me for a considerable time. No amount of asking "How about a Quality Street tin?" or "What if the tin is lined with doilies?" will ever quite dispel its power.

Jane Horrocks's husband Steve (Ray Stevenson) had suffered brain damage in a bike crash: and the way to imagine the effect (said the surgeon) was that his biscuit tin, containing the blancmange, had been hurled at a wall. She gulped; the audience gulped; and some of us looked very glum indeed. Every time we saw Steve after that, we could hear the clash of thin metal on brick, and imagine his brain all squashed up in one corner of his head.

Some Kind of Life was the sort of drama I usually can't abide. Stories about heroic domestic carers are customarily based on real people, and are thus not only constrained by the facts, but written and performed to flatter. Julie Walters is often crucially involved. From the start of last night's compelling film, however, one felt in safe hands, with terrific acting, great photography, and everything ringing true dramatically: Horrocks, as Alison, ticked the check-list of predictable emotions — disbelief, rage, hope, despair — while circles darkened around her eyes, but when she cried, she really meant it. Steve recovered enough to call everybody "Stupid", but he would never remember about being Alison's husband. "Do you love me?" Alison asked him, finally, over a romantic dinner he didn't understand. He nodded vaguely. "Yes. Is Rosie coming tomorrow?"

So finally Alison did a most remarkable thing. She stopped hoping. In the last ten minutes of the film, having ensured that her now infantile husband was comfortable and cared-for, she put her little son in a taxi and left home. Steve didn't need her. None of this was explained in big speeches: Kay Mellor's masterly script was understated from beginning to end. Alison's decision was therefore shocking, but as clear as light. Stopping on the Yorkshire lane where her "real Steve" had crashed, she placed flowers on the road. Everybody knew it: the real Steve was simply never coming back.

Not a particularly happy subject for a Monday morning, but don't blame me: blame the blancmange. Steve was no longer Steve because he had lost Steve's memories, just as the women in Tony Harrison's brilliant 1993 *Screenplay*, **Black Daisies for the Bride** (BBC2, repeated last night) had lost their identities in the blizzard of Alzheimer's. "The person that you know is no longer there, but the shell is there," said a relative in Black Daisies, in voice-over. "It's like a bereavement," said another. "It *is* a bereavement. It's horrible." Meanwhile the women (all real Alzheimer's patients, with real past lives beautifully evoked by Harrison's bridal songs for each) talked nonsense, drummed their heels, rolled their tongues, repeated "I love you, I love you". "She was ever so clever," said a relative of Kathleen's, heart-breakingly. Memory serves a double tragedy here: a tragedy Kathleen is no longer clever; a tragedy somebody can remember when she was.

Anybody interested in the fallibility of the brain had a cudgelling weekend of it, actually: with Ken Campbell's *Brainspotting* (Channel 4) also devoting an hour to the investigation of consciousness — with lots of shots of a detached brain bubbling in a blue-lit tank, and a surgeon drawing firm black pencil lines on Campbell's own, well-shaped bald head. "Where in my brain do I reside?" he wanted to know, but various philosophers and scientists failed to help him with an exact location. Apparently the Ancient Greeks barked up the wrong tree completely, fancying that we existed in our diaphragms, the seat of breath. This mistake is understandable, however, once you remember the Greeks had no teatime assortments to help with the frame of reference.

Helpfully, Professor Susan Greenfield pictured the brain as a system of energies grouping and regrouping in different areas, like emergency services on a Saturday night. This explanation makes sense of a few everyday puzzles, actually, such as the ability to drive 40 miles without noticing, or that irritating thing when you run upstairs and then can't remember why. But while I am happy to think that other people's consciousness may work like this, I agree with Campbell's less sophisticated theory that there is a "little geezer" inside my own head, whom I rely on. Remember Dannie Abse's poem about a real-life brain surgery patient, who intones thrillingly on the operating table: "Leave my soul alone"? Now that was a little geezer speaking, or my name's not whatsit.

So. What a fascinating weekend. Low on mindless entertainment, but high on mindlessness. Seeking alternative stimulation, I watched the first part of **Stephen King's The Stand** on Saturday (BBC1) but it was rubbish. No preamble should take 90 minutes, even if the ultimate subject is the annihilation of America's population by a virulent flu. Atchoo. The story kept switching locations ("Queens, New York"), and discovering more people coughing, but there is a limit to the number of times this is interesting. Still, somebody quoted Yeats, which was nice. Just a shame he called him "Yeets". "Things fall apart, the centre does not hold," he said. Sounds like what happens to the little geezer, when he's thrown against a wall.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (47367)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (2032541)

9.20 Delia Smith's Summer Collection (r) *(Ceefax) (7659812)*

9.50 Gourmet Ireland (s) (5093812)

10.20 Florida Folk: That's Showbusiness! (2621541)

10.45 News (Ceefax) and weather (5768314)

10.50 Cricket — Second Test: England v Pakistan. *(7379980)*

12.00 News (Ceefax) (1792928)

12.05pm The Alphabet Game *(4955831)*

12.35 Neighbours (6793034)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) (40454)

1.30 Regional News and weather (45060522)

1.35 Cricket (73142305)

5.35 Neighbours (449760)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (831)

6.30 Regional News magazines (183)

7.00 The Good Food Show (5473)

7.30 The Rantzen Report: Neighbourhood Rage. This week's topic is the increase in disputes between neighbours (2/3) (367)

8.00 EastEnders. Lorraine moves into the square for good. Alan has a surprise visitor at the night café (Ceefax) (s) (1893)

8.30 Oh Doctor Beeching! Past Love Two new arrivals are greeted with mixed emotions(1788)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) (1638)

9.30 Out of the Blue New boy Lew shows his true colours when he pursues the killer of an Asian owner of a minicab firm. Eric discovers Bruce's Achilles' heel, while Marty finds the adoption process tougher than he thought. With John Duttine, Neil Dudgeon, David Morrissey, Orla Brady, Peter Wright and Lennie James (Ceefax) (s) (553947)

10.25 The X Files: Roland. Top scientists at an aeronautics research laboratory die in mysterious circumstances, with a mentally handicapped janitor the only other person around at the time of the incident. Is the janitor connected to a continuing series of murders? Mulder tries to find out. With David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson (518034)

11.10 Match of the Seventies. Dennis Waterman introduces the series which mixes classic football action from the 1970s with gossip and pop music of the time. Tonight, the story of the 1977-78 season, with Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest winning the title and Liverpool conquering Europe (992837)

NORTHERN IRELAND: 11.10 Dublin Horse Show **11.50** Match of the Seventies **12.30am** Film: No Room to Run **2.35** Weather

1.50 FILM: No Room to Run (1978) On a visit to Sydney, a public relations executive is asked to deliver a batch of contracts to a client. As he hands over the briefcase he is jumped on by two men. Suddenly he finds himself on the run and wanted for murder. He turns to Terry McKenna (Paula Prentiss), the Sydney Opera House PR, for refuge. Directed by Robert Michael Lewis (605725)

1.30am Weather (6913787)

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BBC2

6.00am Open University: Cognitive Development (3804270) **6.25 Powers of the President** *(4591560)* ***7.15 See Hear Breakfast News***(6149386)

7.30 The Family Ness (8392589) **7.35 Johnson and Friends** (1414760) **7.45 Lassie** (r) (s) (1971947) **8.10 Smurfs' Adventures** (5575270) **8.35 To Me ... to You** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (6537873) **9.05** ***Spiderman*** *(2039454)* ***9.25 Smart*** (7665473) **9.50 Puppydog Tales** (3263638) **10.00 Playdays** (s) (7200218)

10.25 Hungarian Grand Prix (s) (1465763) **11.10 Man in a Suitcase** (Ceefax) (9125812) **12.00 Cricket** (s) (65812) **1.00pm Model Millie** (45002473) **1.15 A-Z of Food** *(24024270)* ***1.25 Menus and Music*** (45081980)

1.40 The Oprah Winfrey Show (8152831) **2.20 Crawshaw Paints on Holiday** (r) (87425096) **2.45 A Life of Knowledge** (4575560) **3.00 News** (1871386) **3.05 Natural World** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1942909) **3.55 News** (3456657)

4.00 Cartoon (5605744) **4.05 Fudge** (s) (3465305) **4.30 It'll Never Work** (r) (s) (980) **5.00 Newsround** (2085021)

5.10 Sara (Ceefax) (s) (4401251)

5.35 Cricket (s) (139706)

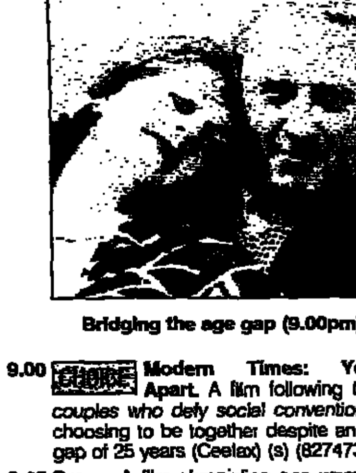
6.10 The Champions (Ceefax) (481473)

7.00 Seven Ages of Man: Molly Parkin (Ceefax) (3015)

7.30 NEW **Edinburgh Nights.** The first of the thrice-weekly reports from the 50th Edinburgh Festival *(s) (909)*

8.00 **The Day That Changed My Life: Funny Business.** *(6/6)* Six years ago, Geoff Schumann gave up everything to pursue his dream of becoming a stand-up comedian (2763)

8.30 Wildlife Showcase The dangers faced on the Masai Mara by a family of warthogs (Ceefax) (s) (1270)



Bridging the age gap (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Modern Times: Years Apart.** A film following three couples who defy social convention by choosing to be together despite an age gap of 25 years (Ceefax) (s) (827473)

9.45 Grace. A film chronicling one woman's gradual mental collapse in the face of Alzheimer's disease (Ceefax) (s) (809638) Followed by Video Nation Shorts

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (117589)

11.15 Cricket Highlights (s) (792454) Followed by Weather

12.00 Grace Under Fire(Ceefax) (s) (29868)

12.30am The Learning Zone: Open University: Jets and Black Holes (99139) **1.00 Picturing the Modern City** (89684) **1.30 Jean-Jacques Rousseau** *(92690)* ***2.00 Summer Nights: Music Maestro Collections 1*** (13313) **4.00 Languages: España Viva: When in Spain, Diez Temas** (76042) **5.30 BBC Focus: RCN Nursing Update** (20597)

CHOICE

The Day That Changed My Life: Funny Business
BBC2, 8.00pm

Devotees of the black comedy show, *The Real McCoy, may remember an excellent* stand-up comedian called Geoff Schumann. Given his size, and he bills himself as "The Big Man of Comedy", he is hard to forget. In this film Schumann reveals that going into the entertainment business was a sudden career move and one he kept secret from his family for a year. In keeping with the expectations of his middle-class father, who wanted him to follow a solid career in the professions, Schumann trained as a teacher. Then one day he took his class to see a comedy show and saw the light. Dad is still not reconciled. Drawing on the experiences of other black comedians, Schumann reflects intelligently on his craft and in particular the compromises he feels obliged to make when playing before white audiences.

Strictly Dancing: Ceroc
Channel 4, 8.30pm

Ceroc is not exactly a dance craze, or it would be more widely known, but it is finding increasing favour among 18 to 35-year-olds who want to buck the recent trend and take the floor with a partner. James Cronin, who brought Ceroc to Britain from France, says it is the dance equivalent to fast food. It is easy to learn and there are no formalities. Older viewers who suspect that they have seen something like Ceroc before will be right. Essentially it is the jitterbug, which was imported to Europe by American GIs and developed into the jive. The first film in a series on "alternative" dances gives a helpful exposition of the Ceroc steps and talks to some of its devotees. If this sample is typical, they are drawn mainly from the ranks of young professionals such as lawyers, sales executives, bankers and lecturers.

Modern Times: Years Apart
BBC2, 9.00pm

Three couples who have found romance despite an apparently unbridgeable age gap come before the camera and let us in on their recipes for happiness. Not that love has always run smoothly. Steven married a woman older than his mother and mum has never been able to accept it. She and Steven have not seen each other for five years. In fact, tying the knot with Virginia (who is now 56 to his 28) not only alienated his family but many of his friends. It was very different for Kathryn, a 17-year-old schoolgirl, when she fell in love with Alan (44). Her parents actually bought her a double bed so that Alan could come to stay. The relationship of Mike, 50, and his wife, Veneta, 18, is professional as well as personal. She is a stripper and he is her manager.

Homicide: Life on the Street
Channel 4, 10.00pm

The Baltimore-based detective series returns with a couple of new characters and promising to make less use of those dizzying jump cuts. Certainly the camerawork seems less intrusive this time, or perhaps we have got used to it. The mainstays of the show are its surface realism and the often barbed interplay between members of the regular team. On its own the detective work is unexceptional and tonight's episode about a warehouse fire which might be murder or arson does not score highly for original plotting. But the focus is more on the detectives than the crime, with a sharp sense of rank and hierarchy. With the elevation of Megan Russert (Isabella Hoffman) above Giardello (Yaphet Kotto), students of political correctness may note that the top three in the division are a black, a woman and another black. **Peter Waymark**

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4145928)

9.25 Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left(7669299)

9.50 Hope and Gloria (5088980)

10.20 ITN News (Teletext)(5311638)

10.25 Regional News (Teletext) **10.30 FILM:** ***Fire — Trapped on the 37th Floor*** (1991) starring Lee Majors. Directed by Robert Day (40744980)

12.20pm Regional News (1781812)

12.30 ITN News and weather (6789831)

12.55 Shortland Street (6764522) **1.25 Coronation Street** (6521522)

2.00 Home and Away (87432386) **2.25 Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman** (8268134)

3.20 ITN News (1888676) **3.25 Regional News**(1887947)

3.30 Caribou Kitchen (6261283) **3.40 Tots TV**(3094928) **3.50 St Tiggywinkles** (3083812)**4.00 Scooby Doo** (1359913) **4.15 The Famous Five** (901299) **4.45 The Great Dinosaur Trail** (1328183)

5.10 Our House (s) (5732947)

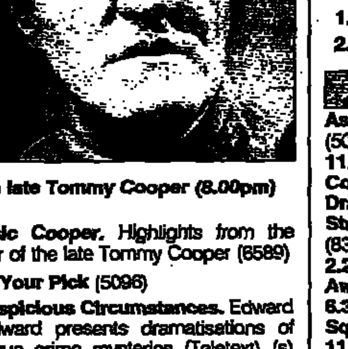
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (552183)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (468855)

6.25 Regional News (126218) **6.50Let's Go** (506725)

7.00 The List (6611)

7.30 Coronation Street. Des and Claire find that three's a crowd. Sam takes Gary for a ride (Teletext) (763)



The late Tommy Cooper (8.00pm)

8.00 Classic Cooper. Highlights from the career of the late Tommy Cooper (6589)

8.30 Take Your Pick (5096)

9.00 In Suspicious Circumstances. Edward Woodward presents dramatisations of two true crime mysteries (Teletext) (s) (7305)

10.00 News at Ten andweather (53589)

10.30 Regional News and weather(734893)

10.40 Limited Edition: Rolinda Sharples — Painted out of History (r) (122560)

11.10 Fire in the Sky (122034)

11.40 Inner Journeys: Elaine Heller (1/2) (r) (Teletext) (155522)

12.10pm Good Advice (r) (5173077)

12.40 Bushell on the Box (s) *(8129416)*

1.10 The Big Match — Replayed. Classic *football action from 1972 (7698690)*

1.55 The Crime Hour presented by Penny Smith (1806597)

2.55 FILM: The Frightened Man (1952, b/w). Crime drama starring Dermot Walsh and Barbara Murray. Directed by John Gilling (4958508)

4.05 Jones and Jury (r) (64090874)

4.30 The Time ... the Place (r) (60503)

5.00 An Invitation to Remember: Charlie Drake (r) (45706)

5.30 ITN ***Morning News*** *(17023). Ends at* **6.00**

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except:

5.10pm-5.40 The Making of Independence Day (5732947)

6.25 Wales Tonight (290218)

7.00-7.30 House to House (6611)

10.40 People Like Us (122560)

11.10 International Rugby Sevens (302763)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

10.30am Murder, She Wrote (5206676)

11.25 Side Effects (9454831)

12.55pm Coronation Street (6764522)

1.25-1.55 Cross Wits (83382638)

1.55 Home and Away (58007541)

2.25 Wild about Cornwall (87435473)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (1841763)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5732947)

6.00 Westcountry Live (58522)

7.00-7.30 Celebrity Squares (6611)

10.40 Special Report (122560)

11.10 Street Legal (902744)

12.10am Short Story Cinema (5173077)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

10.30 Murder, She Wrote (5206676)

11.25 Side Effects (9454831)

12.55pm Home and Away (6764522)

1.55 A Country Practice (89005980)

2.20-3.20 Blue Heelers (2321741)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5732947)

6.25 Central News and Weather (290218)

7.00-7.30 Celebrity Squares (6611)

10.40 Film: The Preppie Murder (64195305)

12.45 The Big Match Replayed (5612329)

1.30 The Crime Hour (62329)

2.30 Film: The Lawyer (81400)

[illegible]

As HTV West except: 9.50-10.20 Sandokan (5088980) **10.30 Worzel Gummidge** (21980) **11.00 Dogtanian** (5333102) **11.25 Cross Combat** (5343589) **11.55 Dungeons and Dragons** (7295706) **12.55pm Coronation Street** (6764522) **1.25 Home and Away** (83382638) **1.55 Shortland Street** (58007541) **2.25 Blue Heelers** (2963742) **5.10 Home and Away** (5732947) **6.00 Meridian Tonight** (299) **6.30 Out of Town** (251) **7.00-7.30 Celebrity Squares** (6611) **10.40 The Pier** (116909) **11.05 The Listings** (911015) **11.10 Go Fishing** (122034) **11.40 Masterclass** (155522) ***12.10am 104 Invasion TV Special*** *(5173077)*

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Starts: 6.35 Hammerman (2772638) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (63305) **9.00 California Dreams** (7671034) **9.25 The Secret World of Alex Mack** (7641893) **9.55 Hanging with Mr Cooper** (6880386) **10.20 Pink Panther** (2614251) **10.45 Bill and Ted's Excellent** ***Adventures*** (5623473) **11.10 Biker Mice from Mars** (8699251) **11.35 Insektors** (8373760) **11.50 Dennis** (8837183) **12.05pm Mork and Mindy** (6915096) **12.30 Love and Marriage** (71473) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (33164) **1.30** ***Fishing the Sloe-Black River*** (89033763) **1.50 Film: A Guide for the Married Man** (97393893) **3.30 Beauty and the Bullet** (657) **4.00 Backdate** (164) **4.30 Garden Party** (676) **5.00 5 Pump: Penblath** (8947) **5.30** ***Countdown*** *(928)* ***6.00 Newyddion*** (498947) **6.15 Heno** (909454) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (310015) **7.25 Bancar** (578928) **8.00 Cyw Haul** (7831) **8.30 Newyddion** (3638) **9.00 Frasier** (7676) **9.30 Friends** (68909) **10.00 Film: City** ***of Hope*** *(60510164)* ***12.25am Sex and the Scientists: Beauty and the Beasts*** (1797597)

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Hammerman (r) (2772638)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (63305)

9.00 California Dreams (r) (7671034)

9.25 The Secret World of Alex Mack (r) (s) (7641893) **9.55 Hangin' with Mr Cooper** (6880386) **10.20 Pink Panther** (s) (2614251) ***10.45 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures*** (5623473) **11.10 Biker Mice from Mars** (8699251)

11.35 Insektors (r) (8373760) **11.50 Dennis** (r) (8837183) **12.05pm Mork and Mindy** (r) (6915096) **12.30 Lonely Planet** (r) (Teletext) (s) (71473) **1.00 Sesame Street** *(r) (s) (76928)*

2.00 Laws of Mortal Danger (47216831)

2.15 FILM:Woman's World *(1954).* Sharp comedy about big business and company wives. Directed by Jean Negulesco (Teletext) (824742)

4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (164)

4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (676)

5.00 The Montel Williams Show: I'm Married to a Racist (Teletext) (s) (8808947)

5.45 Snapshots (r) (826270)

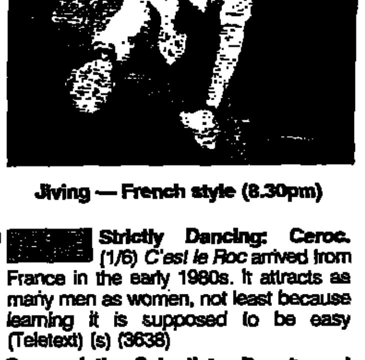
6.00 The Cosby Show (r) (Teletext) (541)

6.30 Boy Meets World: Rave On. Eric and Cory combine a party with anniversary celebrations for their parents (Teletext) (s) (893)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (318473)

7.55 The Slot (635096)

8.00 If I Were Prime Minister (5/6). Tonight's would-be leader is Tommy Sheridan, a Scottish socialist (Teletext) (s) (7831)



Jiving — French style (8.30pm)

8.30 **Strictly Dancing: Ceroc.** (1/6) *C'est le Roc* arrived from France in the early 1980s. It attracts as many men as women, not least because learning it is supposed to be easy (Teletext) (s) (3638)

9.00 Sex and the Scientists: Beauty and the Beasts. (2/3) How women have had an impact on the scientific world (Teletext) (s) (5947)

10.00 **Homicide — Life on the Street: Fire** (1/2) A third series of the gritty American detective series begins, with officers at loggerheads (Teletext) (s) (8034)

11.00 The Cuban Excludables. Documentary about Cuban exiles imprisoned for minor offences (815812)

12.10am Exlingue! Drama (s) (4106145)

12.30 FILM: Amnesia (1994). Two former prison guards face choosing between revenge or learning to live with their memories. Directed by Gonzalo Justiniano. In Spanish with English subtitles (s) (594416)

2.10 FILM: Banana Ridge (1941, b/w). Delightful farce starring Isabel Jeans and Robertson Hare. Directed by Walter C. Mycroft (166787). **Ends at 3.45am**

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am Undun (85541) **8.00** Press Your Luck (4007909) **9.20** Love Connection (1821218) **9.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (2212980) **10.40** Jeopardy! (7631788) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (8852831) **12.00** Geraldo (10386) **1.00pm** Code 3 (95928) **1.30** Designing Women (90522) **2.00** Miracles and Other Wonders (40980) **3.00** Court TV (9218) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5831034) **4.15** Undun (1070657) **5.00** Quantum Leap (3270) **6.00** Beverly Hills 90210 (24170) **7.00** Spellbound (1299) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9137) **8.00** Strange Luck (56589) **9.00** Fire (46725) **10.00** Quantum Leap (49812) **11.00** Highlander (41855) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (4306941) **12.45am** The Josephine Baker Story (6454348) **1.30** Adventures of Mark and Brian (79874) **2.00** *Hit Mix Long Play*

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (2074980) **9.30** The Book Show (28305) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (8391251) **1.30** CBS News Part I (98164) **2.30** CBS News Part II (5314) **3.30** The Book Show (2251) **5.00** Live at Five (1812) **6.30** Tonight with Simon Mccoy *(2015)* **7.30** Sportsline (8299) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (902657) **11.30** CBS News (76305) **12.30am** ABC World News *(37313)* ***1.30*** Tonight with Simon Mccoy Replay (77416) **2.10** CBS 60 Minutes (5308315) **3.30** *The Book Show (42706)* ***4.30*** *CBS News* (41503) **5.30** ABC World News (57619)

SKY MOVIES

6.05am Mountain Family Robinson *(1979)* *(23897744)* **8.00 ...and God Created Woman** (1956) (64560) **10.00 Taking Liberty** (1994) (96878) **11.30** ***Adventures of a Young Man*** **(1962)** (925657) **2.00pm Beethoven's 2nd** (1993) (30164) **4.00 Mr Mum** (1983) (8102) ***6.00 Taking Liberty*** **(1994)** (58675) **7.30 El Features** (5725) **8.00 Beethoven's 2nd** (1993) (65473) **10.00 Fight for Justice: The Nancy Conn Story** (1995) (482541) **11.35 The Young Americans** (1993) (971270) **1.20am The Midnight Man** (1974) (575936) ***3.20-5.00 The Owl*** (1991) (48653787)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 The Muppets Take Manhattan (1984) (18678) **2.00pm Roman Holiday** (1953) (45034) **4.00 April in Paris** (1952) (7034) **6.00 Badman's Country** (1958) (25270) **8.00 The Evil of Frankenstein** (1964) (37015) **10.00 Papillon** (1973) (37453560) **12.35am Compulsion** (1959) (115056) **2.20 The Driver** (1978) (982787) **3.55-5.05 Badman's Country** (1958)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am A Millionaire for Christy (1951) (61725) **7.30 My Little Pony: The Movie** (1986) (84576) **9.00 Prehysteria! 2** (1994) (91034) **10.30 The Littlest Hobo** (1958) (79657) **12.00 Broken Pledges** (1994) (52725) **2.00pm The Boy on a Dolphin** (1957) (61034) **4.00 Spider-Man: Night of the Clones/Escort of Danger** (1978) (5744) **6.00 The Philadelphia Experiment** (1984) (41270) **8.00 Tombstone** (1993) (10800763) **10.10 The Client** (1994) (870522) **12.10am The Crude Oasis** (1995) (5197400) **1.35 The Disappearance of Christina** (1993) *(584868)* ***3.10*** **Search for Grace** (1994) (489955) **4.45-6.00 The Littlest Hobo** (1958) (9455435)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.05am Quack Attack (74454386) **6.30** Chip'n' Dales (64695735) **6.55** Chip'n' Dales (64607560) **7.20** Ducktales (97583251) **7.45** Ducktales (87544541) **8.10** Quack Attack (69892831) **8.35** Darkwing Duck (67142725) **9.00** Darkwing Duck (73835589) **9.30** Quack Attack (95340183) **10.00** Shnookums and Meat (30741265) ***10.30*** *Raw Toonage* (62855725) **10.55** Chip 'n' Dale (52721096) **11.20** Chip 'n' Dale (48977367) **11.45** Muppet Babies (71199183) ***12.05pm*** *Sing Me a Story with Belle* (78654657) **12.30** Lamb Chops Play Along! (95351299) **1.00** Tarzan (83995980) **1.30** Flipper *(51745299)* **2.20** Teen Angel (93628947) **2.30** The Eye of the Storm (88260947) **3.00** Ducktales (31531980) **3.25** Quack Attack (31550015) **3.50** Chip'n' Dales (47437693) **4.15** Darkwing Duck (37724928) **4.40** Darkwing Duck (48633367) **5.00** Gargoyles (39332763) **5.30** Shnookums and Meat (88264763) **6.00** Raw Toonage (88261576) **6.30** Home Improvement (88252928) **7.00** Zorro (39329299) **7.30 FILM: Toast of New York** (53559367) **9.30-10.00** Home Improvement (95364763)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Athletics (834831) **10.00** International Motorsports Report (44218) **11.00** Tennis (24454) **12.00** Formula 1 (33947) ***1.30pm*** *Indycar (92522)* ***3.00*** *Golf (84657)* **4.00** Tennis (43164) **5.00** Four-Wheels (2947) **6.30** Formula 1 (53170) **7.00** Speedworld (49763) **9.00** Tractor Pulling (38837) **10.00** Football (88314) **11.00** Eurogolf Magazine (45947) **12.00-12.30** *Pro Wrestling (81690)*

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Gillette World Sports Special (34831) **7.30** Super League Highlights (24218) **8.30** Racing News (21893) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (45473) **9.30** Finish Line (81763) **10.00** Speedway: Swedish Grand Prix (14096) **11.30** Mountain Biking Dual Descender Series (68473) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (32909) **12.30pm** Football Special: FA Charity Shield (88831) **2.00** Golf USA: *US PGA Championships (483724)* **4.50** Sky Sports Centre (5941909) **5.00** Wrestling (6386) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (3305) **6.30** *Tartan Extra (4657)* ***7.00*** *The Winning Post*: Leicester and Thirsk (6799299) **8.25** Sky Sports Centre (950102) **8.30** International Cricket: England v Pakistan (17744) **10.00** Sky Sports Centre (33638) **10.30** Tartan Extra (42386) **11.00** This Week in Baseball (59725) **11.30** Bushido (55831) **12.30am** International Cricket Highlights (60771) **2.00-2.30** Sky Sports Centre (19503)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00am Booby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (3352314) **11.30-1.00** World Cup Classics: England v Poland 1986 (3137218)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Thought for the Day **4.05** Worship **4.15** Kidz TV **4.30** Voice of Faith **5.00** Voice of Victory **5.30** *Christian Music TV* ***5.45*** General Christian Entertainment **6.15** Word of Life **6.45-7.00** Good Morning Europe

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (2708675) **7.55** As the World Turns (9372763) **8.50** Peyton Place (5379676) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (5502454) **10.10-11.00** Another World

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Boomerang (5322183) **11.30** America's Great Outdoors (3297299) **12.30pm** Cooking in France (7029657) **1.00** Getaway (2605034) **1.30** Great Escapes (8479198) **2.00** Trailside (2174183) **2.30** Mansions (8336744) **3.00** Globetrotter (2193218) **3.30** Around the World (7525265) *3.55-4.00 Holiday Shop*

We are not alone. ***The Martian Chronicles*** **(Sci-fi channel, 8.00pm)**

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Heroes (5346763) **5.00** The Changing Face of Britain (2177270) **6.00-7.00** Biography (2174706)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic sci-fi series every day from **8am-2am** on cable and **1am-4am**, plus **7pm-10pm** Monday-Wednesday, on satellite
7.00pm Battlestar Galactica (7844839) **8.00-10.00** The Martian Chronicles (7949283) **1.00am** The Six Million Dollar Man (8491428) **2.00-4.00** The Martian Chronicles (8738139)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7065763) **9.30** *Grow Your Own (9070980)* **10.00** Two's Country (6790812) **10.30** Home Again (7061947) **11.00** The Painted House (5666541) ***11.30*** *Room for Improvement* (5667270) **12.00** Julia Child (7052299) **12.30pm** The Frugal Gourmet (9081096) **1.00** Simply Delicious (2433164) ***1.30*** *This* Old House (9080367) **2.00** This Old House (2246793) **2.30** Garden Club (6068314) **3.00** Fishing Adventures (5641580) **3.30-** *4.00 This Old House (5313021)*

UK GOLD

7.00am Happy Ever After (3436251) **7.30** Neighbours (2455386) **8.00** Angels (7044270) **8.30** The Odd Couple (7043541) **9.00** The Bill (7034893) **9.30** The Sullivans (9089638) **10.00** Fourth Arm (2444270) **11.00** Bullseye (5675299) **11.30** Tellystack (5676928) **12.00** Sale of the Century (7054657) **12.30pm** Neighbours (6083454) **1.00** Till Death Us Do Part (9165270) **1.35** Hi-De-Hi (9018251) **2.15** Man About the House (9704305) **2.50** Three Up, Two Down (3321164) **3.30** The Bill (9018639) **4.00** One by One (87572015) **5.05** Tellystack (85308522) **5.35** Bullseye (7587744) **6.05** You Rang, M'Lord? (5311021) **7.05** The Two Ronnies (5888305) **8.00** Seven of One (8696657) **8.30** Man About the House (8441742) **9.00** *Not the Nine O'Clock News* (5688763) **9.30** Love Thy Neighbour (9003218) **10.00** The Bill (2092015) **10.35** *The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (9818693) **11.15** Capital City (7498218) **12.15am FILM: She'll Follow You Anywhere** (3981961) *1.35-3.00 Shopping*

TCC

6.00am *Tiny TCC (52096)* **7.00** *Tiny and Crew* (2600909) **7.15** Rose and Jim (1436569) **7.30** Greedysaurus and the Gang (2672657) **7.40** Bertha (3516102) **7.50** Teddy Trucks (3512386) **8.00** Barney and Friends (84386) **8.30** Dinobabies (83657) **9.00** Art Attack (74909) **9.30** Byker Grove (10299) **10.00** Heartbreak High (27812) **11.00** Madison (95182) **11.30** Hang Time (56201) **12.00** Degrassi Junior High (87473) **12.30pm** Pugwall's Summer (14015) **1.00** California Dreams (18164) **1.30** Meltdown (13386) **2.00** Ready or Not (7657) **2.30** Madison (8034) **3.00** Heartbreak High (13947) **4.00** California Dreams (7386) **4.30-5.00** Byker Grove (6270)

NICKELODEON

6.00am *Bananas in Pyjamas* (5575744) **6.15** Mr Men (5670299) **6.30** Babar (69265) **7.00** Littlest Pet Shop (32473) **7.30** Turtles *(11980)* **8.00** Biker Mice (20164) **8.30** Mighty Max (52763) **9.00** Rugrats (65034) **10.00** Real Monsters (92367) **10.30** Doug (49299) **11.00** Rocko (65386) **11.30** Pete and Pete (66015) **12.00** Alex Mack (23251) **12.30pm** Ren and Stimpy (50893) **1.00** Santo Bugito (31744) **1.30** Capital Critters (58164) **2.00** Ferrals (4541) **2.30** Mighty Max (9378) **3.00** Biker Mice (3676) **3.30** Real Monsters (5763) **4.00** Cryptkeeper (4270) **4.30** Rugrats (9134) **5.00** Sister Sister (4928) **6.00** Alex Mack (1947) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark?

DISCOVERY

4.00pm *Islands of the Pacific: Hawaii* (5657893) **5.00** Time Travellers (6198675) **5.30** Jurassica (8763562) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (9099015) **7.00** Wild Things: Window on the Wild (2798819) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (5513229) **8.00** The Marriage of Pocahontas (4485399) **8.30** Lords of the Animals (1241724) **9.00** Crocodile Hunters (1416676) **10.00** Lotus Elise. Project M1:11 (1419763) **11.00-12.00** Justice Files (2443541)

BRAVO

12.00 Robin Hood (7049725) **12.30pm** William Tell (9078522) **1.00** The Buccaneers (2460218) **1.30** Sir Lancelot (9077893) **2.00** Man from Interpol (6291229) **2.30** Charlie Chan (6963760) **3.00** The Saint (5865812) **4.00 FILM: The Girl Most Likely To ...** (4090928) **5.30** The Passionate Pilgrim (8868396) **6.00** UFO (9088541) **7.00** Automan (1414218) **8.00** Planet of the Apes (1490638) **9.00** Starsky and Hutch (1403102) **10.00-12.00** ***FILM: Keetje Tippel*** (5684183)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Family Ties (5657) **7.30** Entertainment Tonight (1183) **8.00** Wings (4305) ***8.30*** *Laverne and Shirley (3812)* ***9.00*** *Soap* (45522) **9.30** Taxi (70657) **10.00** Entertainment Tonight (24980) **10.30** The A List *(40928)* ***11.00*** *Pursuit of Happiness (57357)* **11.30** London Underground (81251) **12.00** Carnal Knowledge (14874) **1.00am** Soap *(44446)* ***1.30*** *Taxi (13232)* ***2.00*** *Entertainment Tonight* (17145) **2.30** Wings (23752) **3.00** The A List (86690) **3.30-4.00** Pursuit of Happiness (10232)

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (7259473) **7.00** Esther (7959034) **7.30** The Young and the Restless (81045411) **8.20** Trivial Pursuit (2838831) ***8.45*** *Masterchef (6254198)* ***9.15*** *Rolonda* (5729763) **10.10** The Jerry Springer Show (9647034) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7260676) **11.55** Brookside (5817015) **12.30pm** Gabrielle (6604589) **1.20** Catchword (2867657) **2.00** Cagney and Lacey (3982744) **3.00** The Summer Show (1578522) **4.00** Infatuation UK (7225909) **4.30** Crosswits (5918560) **5.05** Lingo (84726638) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (7238473) **6.00** Bewitched (7235386) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (6081541) **7.05** Brookside (4584819) **7.35** Trivial Pursuit (9966183) **8.00** Street Legal (1534096) **9.00 FILM: Double Vision** (1537183) **11.00-12.00** The Sex Files II (7935454)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Road to Avonlea (7724) **6.00** Batman (7763) **6.30** Catchphrase (8015) **7.00** All Clued Up (1473) **7.30** The Fall Guy (29299) **8.30** Only When I Laugh (6926) **9.00** The Father Dowling Mysteries (26909) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (29096) **11.00** Sirens (26541) **12.00** The Fall Guy (50690) **1.00am** Batman (39752) **1.30** The Father Dowling Mysteries (97023) **2.30** All Together Now (76868) **3.00** Big Brother Jake (22416) **3.30** GP (63348) **4.00-5.00** Road to Avonlea (11145)

MTV

7.30am First Look (90396) **8.00** Morning Mix (448218) **11.00** US Top 20 (49034) **12.00** Greatest Hits (95980) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (91909) **3.00** Select MTV (15305) **4.00** Hanging Out (74218) **5.30** Dial MTV (9980) **6.00** Hanging Extra (6893) **6.30** Buzzkill (8283) **7.00** Hit List UK (31015) **9.00** Oasis: The Whole Story (91725) **10.30** Chere MTV (66980) **11.00** Yo! (37299) **12.00** Night Videos (9194503) **5.00-6.00** Awake on the Wildside (76955)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (2604305) **9.00** Cafe VH-1 (7836760) **12.00** Heart and Soul *(6774760)* ***1.00pm*** *The Vinyl Years* (4774580) **2.00** Ten of the Best (5657744) **3.00** Into the Music (9413473) **6.00** Happy Hour (8745304) **7.00** VH-1 for You (5044657) **8.00** VH-1 Album Chart (5149201) **10.00** The Bridge (2504831) **10.30** The Tube (2580251) **11.00** Tommy Vance (8281638) **1.00am** Ten of the Best (6691445) **2.00** Dawn Patrol (9700481)

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am to 7pm on satellite, 24 hours on cable, including 5pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6pm-7pm** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Jagraan (52454305) **8.30** Life Style (57847812) **8.30** Community Touch (57847812) **9.00** Ridhi Sidhi (57838164) **9.30** Glazee (92343522) **10.00** Doosra Aasmaan (37995454) **11.00** Khana Khazana (40936034) **11.30** Parampara (42056611) **12.30pm** Parivartan (92354638) **1.00 FILM** (20663657) **4.00** BBCD (40476387) **4.30** Hum Panch (40465251) **5.00** Zee Zone (39489544) **5.30** Akbar Birbal (40488831) ***6.00*** *Usha Uthup* (40488744) **6.30** Zee and U (40477096) **7.00** Tara (26224980) **8.00** News (82846416) **8.30** Yoodle Ae Oo (24514693) **9.00-12.00** ***FILM: Shandar Chhod Di Maine*** (45483560)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
7.00pm David Copperfield (1935) (55698960) **9.30 Night of the Iguana** (1964) (48373980) **11.35 Across the Wide Missouri** (1951) (29126676) **1.00am Johnny Belinda** (1948) (96019706) **2.50-5.00** ***N of the Iguana*** *(1964)* (95127987)

PERFORMANCE

7.00pm Herbie Hancock Trio **8.00** Aria **8.30** Full Circle **9.45** Natasha **11.00** Guitarra **11.30** Aria **12.00-1.00** Weather Update

SMOKE RING 38
Graham Searjeant on the siege war over tobacco

BUSINESS

IRISH SMILES 38
Riverdance leads the economic march on Britain

Whitbread to seek links with regionals

By Alasdair Murray

WHITBREAD, the fast growing brewing and leisure group, is hoping to form a series of strategic alliances with regional brewers as a way of fighting back against the creation of the biggest brewer in Britain with the proposed £200 million merger between Bass and Carlsberg-Tetley.

A tie-up with Whitbread, which once dominated the industry, would also prove attractive for regional brewers. They are keen to find a partner to avoid being squeezed out by Scottish & Newcastle and Bass, which will control about 70 per cent of the beer market between them if the Carlsberg-Tetley deal is allowed to proceed.

That purchase, expected to be announced tomorrow, will involve Bass buying out Allied-Domecq's 50 per cent stake in Carlsberg-Tetley, while Carlsberg of Denmark, the other joint-venture partner, will swap its stake for 20 per cent of Bass's combined brewing operations.

Whitbread, which owns brands such as Murphy's stout, Heineken, and Boddington's, is expected to be left trailing with only 15 per cent of the total market. Whitbread opposed Scottish & Newcastle's acquisition of Courage last year, but has been more muted in its criticism of the Carlsberg-Tetley deal.

The company believes that the latest round of consolidation presents it with several options to fight back.

Whitbread, of which Sir Michael Angus is chairman, has the option to keep its beer prices low, once expected rises are pushed through, so undercutting the two bigger rivals. Alternatively, it could try to win over floating customers after Bass begins its expected cull of unwanted brands.

But top of the agenda is a series of tie-ups with regionals to help to improve Whitbread's own portfolio while gaining access for its other brands to more pubs.

Vaux, based in Sunderland, is one potential partner as it brews some Labatt beers that were acquired by Whitbread in May. However, Whitbread is as likely to look to second-tier regional players such as King and Barnes for alliances.

Such a strategy would revive memories of the "Whitbread umbrella", a vast array of shareholdings the company built up in regional brewers after the end of the Second World War. Whitbread now has only one stake, in Brakespear, the small regional brewer, and is unlikely to want revive such a close relationship.

Instead, Whitbread will concentrate on striking deals modelled on its agreement with Wadworth, of Devizes, to distribute its 6X beer. The 20-year licence allows Wadworth to concentrate on its own pub and regional brewing activities, while Whitbread plugs a hole in its portfolio.

Whitbread may also look at taking on contract brewing from the regionals as well offering its own brands, and especially its lagers, to help to broaden the small brewers' portfolios. But the company will be keen to emphasise to the City that it is more interested in adding new premium beers, and especially bitters, than capturing extra market share.

Whitbread has steadily reduced the importance of its brewing division over the past few years, concentrating on its retail and leisure divisions, which now constitute 85 per cent of its business.

Sir Michael Angus, of Whitbread, has put the quest for alliances at the top of the agenda

Bifu plea to see job cuts report

By Robert Miller

A LEADING financial services union has called on the insurance industry to publish without delay a hard-hitting report which suggests the sector will shed up to 100,000 jobs in the next five years.

Bernadette Fisher, a negotiating officer for insurance at Bifu, the banking, insurance and finance union, said that after the merger between United Friendly and Refuge — at a cost of 1,800 posts on top of the 5,000 lost from the tie-up between Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance — it was "a matter of extreme urgency" that the report compiled for the Association of British Insurers by Price Waterhouse, the accountant, be published immediately.

Insurance analysts have for some time predicted that the life and pensions industry was an overcrowded sector and could shrink by up to 25 per cent through mergers and takeovers by the year 2000. The present 320,000-strong workforce is expected to bear the brunt of the sector's rationalisation.

Ms Fisher said: "It is very important that we see the report and its conclusions on where the job losses will fall and what has caused them. We believe that customers will lose out on products and in competition terms in the current round of merger mania."

The ABI last night said it had not yet been decided when or if the report would be published.

Managers expect rates to rise

By Robert Miller

CITY fund managers responsible for looking after £931 billion now expect interest rates to rise over the next year, rather than fall further, according to the latest Merrill Lynch/Gallup monthly survey out today.

At least 81 per cent of the 74 institutions polled predict the Bank of England will raise the base rate, compared with 64 per cent in July. Inflation forecasts were unchanged at 2.8 per cent for end-1996.

On the equity markets, the survey notes a sharp drop in the number of managers looking to raise their exposure to Pacific Rim shares, with the net balance down to 7 per cent from 21 per cent previously.

On a 12-month view of the UK market managers have become more optimistic, with a positive balance of 32 per cent of those polled, compared with 20 per cent last time.

The balance of managers planning to reduce their cash holdings is 11 per cent, compared with 7 per cent who wanted to raise cash in July.

Utilities are braced for mauling by watchdogs

By Martin Waller

TWO of Britain's privatised utilities are set for a regulatory savaging this week and proposed price cuts that would knock hundreds of millions of pounds off the profits of both British Gas and the National Grid.

Clare Spottiswoode, the Director-General of Ofgas, is expected this week to publish her long-awaited final proposals for price controls on TransCo, British Gas's pipelines business.

She is believed by City observers to have softened slightly on her earlier plans, which at worst would have meant a 28 per cent cut on the charges shippers pay to use the TransCo network.

She is now thought to have settled on a cut of perhaps 20 per cent, representing a £20 reduction in bills paid by British Gas's 18 million customers. Although this would represent a significant moderation of her original stance, it would still probably be unacceptable to the company.

If the proposals are rejected out of hand by British Gas, the matter goes automatically to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. This might prove a political advantage to the Government, throwing the eventual resolution to the bitter conflict between company and regulator to beyond any general election.

But it would leave the stock market and British Gas's investors with months of uncertainty. The company's management has argued that such stringent regulation is effectively retrospective, aimed at clawing back profits already booked. The result of such a move would be thousands of lost jobs, a probable cut in dividends and question marks over the safety of the pipeline business because of lack of funds to invest, British Gas says.

On Tuesday Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, will announce proposed price cuts for National Grid. Although these would only knock a few pounds off electricity bills, they would have a drastic impact on the company's finances. National Grid shares have been a poor performer since the company arrived on the stock market in December, but the stiff pricing regime the market expects, requiring an initial price cut of between 20 and 30 per cent, is likely to send them further into reverse.

"We're braced for bad news," admitted one source close to the company.

Tax cut of 2p forecast

The "feel-good" factor has returned to the UK economy, and consumer demand will be further strengthened by a 2p tax cut in November's Budget, a new quarterly economic report forecasts.

The report today by the Chartered Institute of Marketing says the property market is more buoyant, wage increases are expected to outstrip prices and manufacturing production is picking up, albeit slowly.

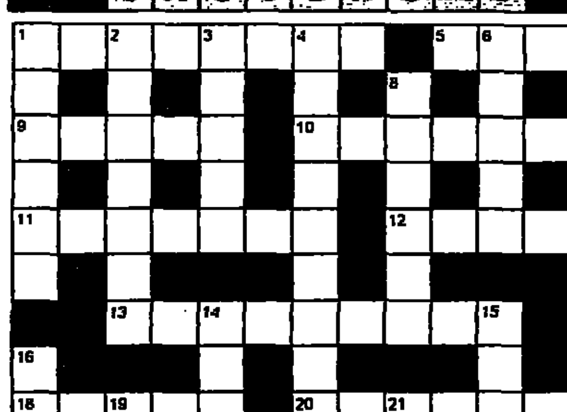
Kepit offer

The £500 million auction for the Kleinwort European Privatisation Investment Trust (Kepit) is intensifying amid speculation that an improved offer will be made by T R European Growth, the rival trust, this week. There are thought to be about a dozen other potential bidders.

Rate fears

Borrowers in Ireland are bracing themselves for a rise in interest rates this week after the Central Bank's refusal to stem the rise of wholesale rates over the past ten days.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 858

ACROSS
1 Weakened, ineffective person (4,4)
5 Collar fastener (4)
9 Shrink in fear (5)
10 Of earthquakes (7)
11 Pay (of eg vicar) (7)
12 Polish currency (5)
13 Wisdom after event (9)
18 Compassion; courage (5)
20 Alone for (7)
22 Loud and discordant (7)
23 Pale grey (5)
24 Source: player protected in draw (4)
25 Drag out (8)

DOWN
1 Swarming, plague insect (6)
2 Insipid and sentimental (7)
3 Song of lament (5)
4 Money-issuing machine (4,9)
6 Speed (*mus.*) (5)
7 Metrical foot, *tum-ti-ti* (6)
8 Pattern of sharp turns (6)
14 People of a state (6)
15 Windpipe (7)
16 Wonder-of-World lighthouse (6)
17 Milk-curdling substance (6)
19 (Angle) less than 90° (5)
21 Intertwine (eg hair) (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 857
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Yellow card for smaller clubs

By Alasdair Murray

MANY football clubs face extinction if the gap between rich and poor continues to accelerate, according to a report published today by Deloitte & Touche, the accountant.

Cash-strapped clubs are being particularly hard hit by spiralling wage bills, which increased by an average 16 per cent in 1994-95 and are in danger of running out of control.

Deloitte found, in its *Annual Review of Football Finance*, that most clubs are struggling to stay afloat in spite of the image of a game awash with cash. Gerry Boon, chairman of the Deloitte & Touche football industry team, said: "The trickle-down is decreasing each year. The losses at the Football League clubs are a cause for concern and it is difficult to see how some clubs will survive in the long term unless action is taken."

The average operating profit for Premiership clubs increased from £1.86 million to £2.25 million in 1994-95. But losses in other divisions continued to rise, with First Division clubs losing an average of £703,000.

Manchester United topped the pre-tax profits table with £20 million, a record for the game. Another quoted club, Tottenham Hotspur, was runner-up with a reported profit of more than £5 million. Only three other clubs, Aston Villa, Chelsea and Leicester, made profits of more than £2 million. Transfer fees in all divisions totalled £110 million in 1994-95, a 20 per cent increase on the previous year.

US ruling expected to knock BAT

SHARES in BAT Industries, Britain's main producer of cigarettes for the American market, are expected to fall sharply on the stock market this morning as analysts digest the implications of a defeat in a Florida court for the company's US subsidiary (Martin Waller writes).

A jury found on Friday in favour of Grady Carter, 66 and a smoker from 1947 to 1991, when he was diagnosed as suffering from lung cancer. He was suing BAT's Brown & Williamson, buyer in 1993 of American Tobacco which produces Lucky Strike, his favourite brand.

He claimed he contracted the disease from smoking and was misled by advertising that made him believe smoking was safe. BAT says it is confident of winning on appeal.

A BAT spokesman said last night: "He was well aware of what the risks of smoking are claimed to be, and he chose to smoke."

Graham Searjeant, page 38

Pay rise of 400 per cent angers investors

Restaurants chief under fire

ALI SALIH, chairman of Aberdeen Steak Houses Group, will today face the wrath of his small shareholders as he tries to push through a 400 per cent pay rise, although the company refuses to pay investors a dividend (Alasdair Murrey writes).

Mr Salih has 80 per cent of the shares. He is increasing his salary and pension contributions from £105,000 last year to £450,000.

But the Aberdeen Steak Houses Shareholders Group, which represents the company's small shareholders, is angry that Mr Salih is enjoying a pay rise, and was paid a bonus of £185,000 for increasing profits last year, while the company has failed to pay a dividend for seven years.

The restaurant company, which owns a chain of steak houses in London, quadrupled profits to £2.2 million last year. It ruled out a dividend because of concern about the impact of the BSE crisis on cashflow. Mr Salih said, however, in his most recent trading statement that he did not believe the BSE scare would cause permanent damage to the company's business.

The action group is opposing the pay rise at today's annual meeting and is seeking the appointment of a third non-executive director, drawn from the minority shareholders, who control a maximum of 7 per cent of the votes.

at a few drinks and a flutter

Anthony Holden on the one addiction that he believes he has under his control

GAMBLING

Forgive me a wry smile in the mirror as I light a cigarette, take another sip of wine, and settle down to write of the one addiction I believe I have under control.

To me you behold a prototype of the addictive personality, too far gone even to dice with denial. If a thing's worth doing, as they say in Las Vegas, it's worth overdoing. I am an unrepentant smoker, ready to pay for my pleasure with the sordid and premature death in which it will no doubt end. I am a more repentant drinker, aware of the occasionally tragic transformations to my personality, not to mention my waistline — the two complaints that really register from a worried wife whose word is my bond.

I am also a bit of a gambler. I play poker at least twice a week — on Tuesday nights with a bunch of misfits dating back 25 years, at weekends in a club so grim it can feel more like self-punishment than self-gratification. But poker, as any serious player will tell you, is not gambling. Gambling is a loose, and losing, style of playing poker — in which money is merely the method of keeping score.

> 'Money won is twice as sweet as money earned'

Yes, poker is a game played for money, large amounts of which can change hands on the random fall of a card. If, however, you know what you are doing, you are wagering favourable odds. Regardless of the passing whims of Lady Luck, the law of averages will ensure that in the long run the accurate player will win.

In any other casino game — roulette, blackjack, craps, baccarat — you are wagering unfavourable odds, loaded in favour of the house. You may have a thrilling, short-term win at the roulette table, but if you are tempted to try it every night, let alone for a living, you'll be a loser.

The same applies to horses, athletes, National Lottery balls or any other object beyond your control. If one freak, exhilarating win breeds a predictable taste for more, it will also point you towards equally predictable ruin.

None of which, of course, stops stubborn types like me attempting to defy the odds. Our creed is that of Paul Newman's "Fast Eddie" Felson in Scorsese's *The Color of Money*: "Money won is twice as sweet as money earned." But I learnt my lessons early to the point where I live by the golden rule never to risk more than I can afford to lose.

For 20 years I have disciplined my gambling via a separate bank account. That way, you can punish yourself for a careless loss by paying the interest on your overdraft; enjoy a handsome win by taking a vacation at someone else's expense; and treat money with the contempt it deserves.

So, for all my other failings, I do not regard myself as a compulsive gambler. But I have known my share of those who are: my high-wire Dostoevskian friend, who can sweat his way through three shirts in an hour playing roulette in an air-conditioned casino; who just cannot walk away while winning; and who is not really happy, not really *purged* until he's lost the lot. Or the sometime world seven-card-stud champion, who has plummeted from the Fast Lane to Skid Row in a few short years. Or those poker players who cannot fold, who have to be in every hand for the remote thrill of winning, who cannot see that it is their ego running a show they should long since have consigned to their wits.

What they fail to understand is that victory goes not to the player who wins the most pots, but to the player who wins the most money. They are in it for the action. They are losers — and most of them, in my experience, are British.

How has this uptight, anal-retentive nation produced so many born losers in pursuit of something for nothing?

In those last three words, of course, lies the answer. Everyone's after the same thing. Something for nothing, and to hell with the hindmost.

Some succeed. Others, like Nick Leeson, don't. For those of us operating at more modest levels, the true essential is self-knowledge. A gambler, who can swallow his ego, control his pride, acknowledge his limitations and adjust his risks accordingly, will generally survive. Those who deceive themselves that they know better, that today is their lucky day — and, if not, there's always tomorrow — they, poor souls, are the damned.

HARRY KERR

"You may have a thrilling, short-term win at the roulette table, but if you are tempted to try it every night, you'll be a loser. The same applies to horses, athletes or National Lottery balls"

I thought I was fat

EATING

BULIMIA causes many strange side-effects, which nobody ever seems to mention: after a binge, a severe pain occurs in, of all places, the armpits. After a private Häagen-Dazs feast, for example, the fact that the stomach is stretched to bursting is logical; even that the saliva glands are so swollen that one can't turn one's neck and head makes a sort of sense. The bruised armpits remain a puzzle.

I had an eating disorder for five years, plenty of time to study the peculiarities of addiction in general, and this hardest-of-all-addictions to kick in particular. I was 23 when it came up to grab me, a late starter: children of seven get anorexia these days.

I started by starving myself. It seemed a clever method of losing weight and gaining attention. I had briefly savoured its power when, aged 14, inspired by IRA hunger-strikers, I had refused to eat for ten days as a means of persuading my parents to take me away from my miserable boarding school. It worked; I was sent to a day school nearer home. Starving was glamorous, poetic, noble.

Nearly a decade later, unhappy again, I decided to try it once more. Unfortunately, it graduated into a bulimic addiction which was far from romantic. While bingeing undoubtedly bestowed its own sort of fleeting and perverted pleasure — secretly gorging on all those forbidden foods in sinfully huge amounts — the disorder was agonising, lonely, shameful and boring; boring as hell.

Food, gluttonous food

First, there are all the calculations to do with fleshly forbidden pounds and calories. One's brain is forced to indulge a diseased obsession when calorie calculations take up hours, even pervading dreams. If someone had thrown a chocolate mousse in my face, eyes closed I would have been able to tell its exact calorific value.

Secondly, there were the interminable battles in the head between the rational and the irrational. The rational said: "You are not completely obese; you can eat like a normal person." The irrational — alas stronger — thought otherwise, assuming that when someone glanced at me on the bus, it was because I was so grotesquely fat that I was a fairground freak.

I suppose it was the irrational, too, that would interfere with my optician-perfect eyesight whenever I looked in the mirror. My reflection was this vast Beryl Cook figure, stomach like a mound of cold porridge, thighs and hips a grotesque distortion of jodhpurs and sandbags.

The truth about eating disorders is harder to gauge than with other addictions. While a troubled childhood might have a lot to do with all of them, there are added factors when it comes to food obsessions: for example, a sick fashion industry which dictates that only a uniform, obscene thinness qualifies someone to be human.

I don't believe there are cures for anorexia and bulimia. The reason I managed four years ago finally to kick it was luck more than anything — a combination of growing older and more confident, of becoming fed up with my calories-and-pounds infested mind, and stumbling across someone who thinks a really thin woman is about as sexy as a chair leg and gave every indication of sticking around.

CANDIDA CREWE

Falling in love . . . again

ROMANCE

The American supermodel Christie Brinkley has announced that she intends, once again, to marry. It will be her fourth time, and her fifth serious relationship if you count a boyfriend who died in a car crash. She heads for the altar aware that in the past, marriage has made her deeply unhappy. Yet she is having another tilt. Why?

Addiction is the diagnosis of Dr Dennis O'Grady, a psychologist and author from Dayton, Ohio, who specialises in marriage problems and depression. "You cannot get addicted to marriage per se," he says, "but you can get addicted to the feeling of being in love, to the romantic process of courtship. Some people just like to chase the love wagon."

Brinkley's first husband was Jean-François Allaux, a French illustrator. Then came the singer Billy Joel, who memorably labelled her the "uptown girl" in one of his hits. In the 1980s and early 1990s, the Joels were the dream couple of Manhattan, but then it all went wrong. Brinkley rebounded with a heady, deep affair with a French racing driver and champagne heir, Olivier Chandon de Briailles, who was to die in an horrific crash. Soon after his death and within weeks of her divorce from Joel being finalised, Brinkley married Rick Taubman, a property developer.

"Ricky and I want to be together all the time," she said. "We knew it was meant to be." But within eight months, just seven weeks after the birth of their son, the couple split up.

Zsa Zsa Gabor, Liz Taylor, Sir James Goldsmith — these are the names one quickly associates with multiple marriage. However, the phenomenon is not confined to the wealthy and glamorous. Only the other day an apparently ordinary patient walked in to Dr O'Grady's surgery to announce that he had decided to marry for the twelfth time. The same old arguments were presented. The new fiancée was the woman of his dreams. Yes, he was sure. Never felt surer. It was love. Heck, this was the life he had been waiting for all these years.

Dr O'Grady believes that we enter marriage these days with our expectations unfairly raised. "Romantic marriage is a very recent concept, dating back little more than 30 years," he says. "In the past, weddings were often arranged and husbands and wives learnt to love one another. Now we even expect men to communicate. And people are not prepared to work hard enough at their marriages."

Refreshingly for an American psychologist, Dr O'Grady further argues that modern couples talk too much and attempt too much amateur psychoanalysis of one another's shortcomings. They also pick up phrases such as "in denial" from the media and try to use them in their own contexts, he says, and often it all ends in divorce.

Dream chaser: Liz Taylor

Last month Brinkley was asked why marriage number three had failed. She replied that at the time she was proposed to by Taubman, for whom the marriage was a first, she had clearly been going through some sort of "post-traumatic stress" after a helicopter accident.

Her latest fiancé is Peter Cook, a handsome architect whom she has known for about two months. The attraction was instant. "Oh yes," she has said. "I knew."

For how long this time?

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD

VISUAL ART

The National Gallery of Scotland's stunning Velázquez exhibition is the star of the show at the Edinburgh Festival

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow

THEATRE

Robert Lepage reconceives *Hamlet* for the technological age in his *Elsinore* at the Edinburgh Festival

OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday

JAZZ

Fresh from the release of his new album, *My Romance*, the US tenor saxman Scott Hamilton plays Pizza Express

GIG: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday

DANCE

Mark Morris, already a favourite with festival audiences, returns with a special programme to mark Edinburgh's 50th

OPENS: Monday
REVIEW: Thursday

The director the critics hate to love

James Woodall meets Peter Stein as he prepares to unleash his *Uncle Vanya* – in Italian – on Edinburgh

Peter Stein, the German theatre director, almost never gives interviews — not to the German press, at any rate, and to foreigners only sparingly. He has been living in Rome for the past five years, and hopes to die there. He has been in charge of the theatre at Salzburg for six years, where German critics continue to savage his work.

"Why this happens I cannot say," he says. "With *The Hairy Ape* [Stein's immensely successful production of O'Neill's play, performed at London's National Theatre in 1988], they said I should never be given money to do shows again."

The public, it seems, takes no notice. In Salzburg Stein has trebled theatregoing audiences. At the Edinburgh Festival, meanwhile, he has become a star fixture: *Julius Caesar* and Verdi's *Falstaff* in 1993; a Russian *Oresteia* in 1994; and now Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*. The showcasing of Stein's brilliant and innovative productions in Scotland is due entirely to the festival director, Brian McMaster. McMaster persuaded Stein to direct operas at Welsh National Opera in the 1980s, and has brought Stein's theatre to Edinburgh for the good reason that he is one of the world's finest directors.

Uncle Vanya promises to be something special. Firstly, it is in Italian. Under the aegis of the Teatro di Roma, it was premiered in Moscow last Easter, and stars Stein's wife Maddalena Crippa as Yelena, and one of Italy's most versatile actors, Roberto Herlitzka, as Vanya.

"Herlitzka is highly formalistic and studies hard, almost too hard," Stein says. "He's also full of little improvisations you nearly can't see. All Italian actors have a certain kind of physical behaviour on stage which is unique."

This went down well in Moscow, to Stein's surprise, not least because he has made Vanya very funny and the lovelorn Sonya (Elisabetta Pozzi) older than usual. Years of work on Chekhov have clearly paid off, even if in Stein's opinion *Uncle Vanya* is not his best play. "I'm very clear about the hierarchy of the quality of the plays. The best of them is *The Cherry Orchard*. The easiest to do is *Three Sisters*, because it's a very good story. And I'm not very fond of *The Seagull*."

Stein does nothing by halves. Work on *Vanya* in 1995 included the cast reading Chekhov's letters and novels and Stanislavsky on Chekhov and trips through the Russian landscape as well as rehearsals in Moscow: typical Stein hard graft. For *As You Like It* at the Berlin's Schaubühne, he famously traipsed around Warwickshire for a few weeks with his actors.

In *Vanya*, Stein begins to see something he is adamant is integral to the other two Chekhov plays: the way Russians deal with time. "Western Europeans try to organise, change and manipulate everything," he says. "The great philosophers say we should not do this, they say rather that we should try to get into contact with time passing, get in harmony with things — the whole cosmic situation. This we see in Chekhov, and it's a very Russian thing."

With time come changes in weather, temperature and season, all central to the design of this *Vanya*. "Chekhov likes to go through different atmospheres — *afa* (sultriness), for example, in the first act. In the second act the storm comes, and everything seems refreshed, though we see that's not the case. Act III is in bright sunshine of late summer, Act IV is an autumn evening. All of this has an enormous influence on the characters."

This almost scientific attention to detail is a constant in Stein's approach to mounting a play. The reading, travelling and cultural immersion that precede each one are symptomatic of the way he has conducted his career.

Born in Berlin in 1937, Stein followed a course in literature and fine arts for eight years, travelling around Europe. He gained no doctorate — the stamp of cultural gravitas in Germany — and knew he couldn't paint or write. When it came to theatre, he simply bought tickets for shows and watched actors closely. When he finally landed a job as assistant director in Munich in the mid-1960s, he was as steeped in music and painting as he was in drama.

In 1970, he co-founded the Schaubühne (with Edith Clever and actor Bruno Ganz, among others) and proved that he could turn an undistinguished Berlin suburban theatre into Germany's most pioneering drama powerhouse, both as director and organiser.

Impressively ambitious, Stein feigns no modesty whatsoever. Yet about his own job, he is refreshingly frank: "As a director, you are a combiner: you can't speak, you can't sing, you can't paint, you can't make a set, but you can interfere with everything and organise. Theatre is compiled art, which is a lousy definition of directing."

● Uncle Vanya *is at the King's Theatre (0131-225 5756) Aug 29-31*

Peter Stein in Salzburg, where he is loved by the public and reviled by the critics — "Why, I cannot say"

Benedict Nightingale changes hats, from privileged critic to paying customer

High spirits at high prices: the cast of *Grease*, the hit show Benedict Nightingale chose to see on his frustrating night out as a West End punter

A dim view from Row Y

It is easy for a critic to forget how the other 99.9 per cent live. Most people do not swan into theatres to find welcoming publicity officers with free tickets, free programmes, and, if the producer is feeling generous, free glasses of wine. Most people do not find themselves comfortably perched on aisle seats six or seven rows from the stage, nor, one fears, can they be confident of watching a complete, unadulterated cast giving their all to the show. Of course, first nights have their irksome aspects, what with all those paparazzi and autograph hounds clogging the foyer and those overdressed celebs undulating round the stalls and delaying the rise of the curtain; but for many people even this might be part of the fun.

Trevor Nunn, too, is more likely to visit theatres as a favoured guest than an ordinary punter; but the article he recently wrote about the decay of the West End has clearly touched quite a few chords. For 99.9 per cent of people, playgoing must often be a chore and an irritant. As I endlessly circle the Piccadilly area in search of an overpriced parking spot, then battle through the crowds in hopes of snatching a bite before seeing yet another ratty compendium show, a paradoxical thought regularly strikes me: it is a good thing I love the theatre or I would very likely hate the theatre. But I wonder how many less privileged playgoers are terminally put off by the problems of getting to Shaftesbury Avenue, the cluttered pavements, the expense and, this summer, the poorish choice of shows.

A few days ago I tried to put myself in the place of a member of the paying public who fancied an evening away from the box. I fear my spirits dipped as soon as I inspected the list of West End shows I had already reviewed. It consisted almost entirely of musicals and revivals, and not many of them struck me as warranting a first visit, let alone a second. So I spread out my *London Theatre Guide*, shut my eyes, and hoped my finger would land on something I had enjoyed, such as *An Inspector Calls*, *By Jeeves* or even *The Odd Couple*.

But, oh dear, it ended up bang on the G of *Grease* at the Dominion. I did not greatly relish the prospect of spending two and a half hours watching 1950s high-school kids parading their loudly miked amours; and yet I had to admit it was an apt choice, for the show has survived iffy reviews to become a popular success. It has run for more than three years and, as I found when I called the theatre, it still quickly sells its better seats. While the phone disloyally played Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Memory* to me, the box-office staff discovered they could offer me nothing that night at the top price of £27.50.

This is not the dearest ticket in town. A good seat at *Miss Saigon*, *Phantom of the Opera* or several other big, lavish musicals now costs £32.50, and even straight plays can set you back £24 or even £26. The days when we could boast that the West End was much cheaper than Broadway are gone, especially for theatregoers unwise enough to get tickets at places other than the box office. A shop on Shaftesbury Avenue offered me a £27.50 seat for *Grease* for £34.50, or £7 more than face value, and I have no reason to suppose it was an especially good one. So I phoned in my credit card number and bought a place way back in row Y for £22.50.

But how to get to the theatre for a 7.30pm start? This is a problem that has far more impact on theatregoing than is usually acknowledged. No sensible person would come by bus through the early-evening rush hour, and, even when the drivers are not on strike, late-evening Tube trains home are erratic and crammed with the less lovely sort of night people. If the show is long, or you decide to eat out afterwards, the railways are not much help either. All this explains why people drive to the theatre — and why many must be loath to repeat the experience.

Finding a parking space in Westminster is hard enough, especially now the IRA has made the streets off Whitehall a no-go area. But it is the *obstructionism of Camden*, whose remit inexplicably extends deep into Covent Garden, that is unforgivable.

> ❛ It is a good thing I love the theatre, or I would very likely hate it ❜

Even if you find a two-hour meter somewhere central, you cannot use it before 6.30pm, for parking restrictions now extend to 8.30pm, long after every curtain in town has risen; and, just to add to the misery, double-yellow lines have replaced virtually all the single ones. Oblivious to the interests of the theatres and restaurants that keep them solvent, these north London killjoys have made it near-impossible for car-owners to enjoy an evening out.

Since the Dominion is in Camden's domains, the obvious answer is a car park. But the nearest one to the theatre charges an outrageous £8.50 an evening, and more if you enter it before 6.30pm. That is more expensive than any Broadway car park I know, and explains why I ended up finding myself a street slot a quarter of a mile north and then wandered back to Soho in hopes of visiting a decent restaurant before 7pm, when I had been politely ordered to collect my ticket. But time was by now too short to do justice to cooking that, at £20 to £40 a meal, would also cost me more than its New York counterpart. So I crammed down a pie and a pint in a pub and hurried off to the Dominion.

Above the theatre frontage was an enormous quote from the *Daily Mirror*: "*Grease* is the word." Reflecting that this was about as meaningful as "*Trainspotting* is the participle", I was directed first to one wrong queue, then to another, before a man in a monkey suit leapt from a door marked "private" to give me my prepaid ticket. Still, the process only took a few minutes, and everyone was polite enough for me to stifle any complaints.

There were several complaints I eventually felt like making. The programme was not worth £2 nor the flimsy "souvenir brochure" £4, and I decided not to treat myself to a *Grease* sweatshirt, for it cost all of £17.50. The hot, humid auditorium badly needed air-conditioning. A brusque, half-comprehensible voice informed us that no fewer than four performers were missing and, presumably, being replaced by understudies. My £22.50 seat was too many rods, poles or perches from the stage for me to get a clear look at the cheerleaders' legs and their studs' faces. Luckily or unluckily, the stalls bar, like most theatre bars in London, was so crowded that I never got to pay £2 for a few sips of wine, £2.10 for a tiny gin, or £20 for a half-bottle of champagne.

Nevertheless, the performance was up to scratch and left my fellow spectators clapping and cheering. Maybe they had organised the evening better than me. Or maybe they had paid so much that they put more effort into enjoying it. I was fortunate to have got away with expenses of £37, plus the cost of driving to and from Fulham. If I had taken my wife and tried to make a proper night of it, I could easily have spent £120 or £150 and still have ended up irritated and frustrated. Is it a wonder the West End is having its struggles?

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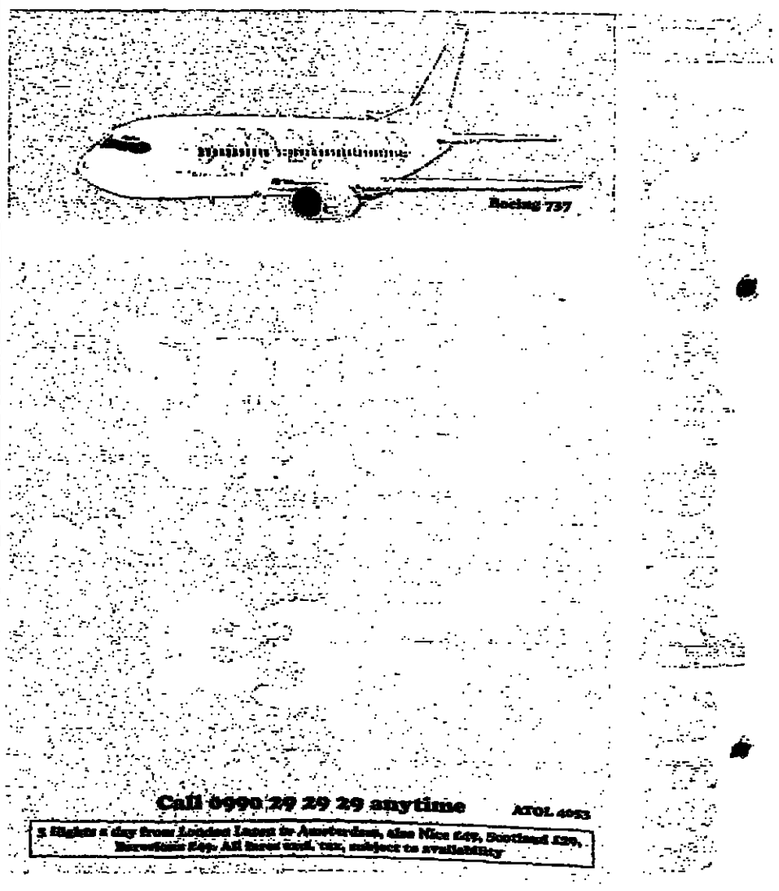
Don Quixote
Massenet
October 2,4,10,12,15,17,23,26,28,29,31

The Cunning Little Vixen
Leoš Janáček
October 18,22,25,30
November 6,9,14,18

Rigoletto
Verdi
November 2,5,8,16,20,22,27,30
December 3,6

New Production
Die Soldaten (Soldiers)
Bernd Alois Zimmermann
November 19,23,26,28
December 5,10,12

Box Office
0171 632 8300



FILM

Jack Nicholson stars as a distraught father bent on avenging his daughter's death, in *The Crossing Guard*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

BOOKS

Why cross-dressing could have killed Joan of Arc: two books look at the infamous trial of the Maid of Orleans
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday

MUSIC

Kurt Masur brings the acclaimed New York Philharmonic to the Edinburgh Festival for two nights
CONCERTS: Sat, Sun
REVIEW: Next week

POP

Supergrass, Pulp and Elastica join an impressive line-up of bands at the V96 Festival in Chelmsford
GIG: Saturday
REVIEW: Next week

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Making a killing in the country

OPERA: Rodney Milnes enjoys the mixture of serious business and simple pleasure at the Glimmerglass festival in upstate New York

It is almost impossible to avoid the dread words "an American Glyndebourne" when writing about summer seasons of opera in sylvan American surroundings — Santa Fe, Saint Louis, Glimmerglass, perm any two from three. The 900-seat Alice Bush Theatre on Lake Otsego — James Fenimore Cooper's "Glimmerglass" — in upstate New York could hardly enjoy a more sylvan setting, and picnics are both encouraged and provided, but the real comparison lies in the quality of the performances.

The three operas I saw there last week were superbly cast, meticulously prepared and excellently conducted. The music staff, as in Sussex, are given prominence in the programme book, and they certainly deserve it. The Young American Artists Programme attached to the season, a sort of equivalent to the Glyndebourne touring operation, breeds significant mutual benefit. There may be hedonism in the air, albeit discreet, but Glimmerglass is in the business of presenting solid, serious work.

The big news this year was a revival of Jack Beeson's **Lizzie Borden**, first performed by New York City Opera in 1965. There is an almost definable genre of transatlantic "well-made operas" about which Europeans tend to be condescending, and shouldn't. *Lizzie Borden* is a well-made opera in the sense that *A Long Day's Journey Into Night* is a well-made play — that is to say, very well-made indeed. The subject is of course the woman who in 1892 took an axe and gave her mother (in fact stepmother) 40 whacks, and the opera's grimly ironic subtitle is "a family portrait".

The Borden family could indeed give the House of Atreus a run for its money: mean and bullying paterfamilias, sexually voracious stepmother, repressed daughters and their — in the circumstances — decidedly rash suitor. It is hard to tell if Lizzie is obsessed more with her dead mother, incestuously with her father, or marginally more healthily with her sister's young man; either way, it comes as no surprise when she dons her late mother's wedding dress and mounts the stairs with a purposeful tread and an axe. The subsequent love scene with father before she does for him as well is exceedingly creepy.

Kenward Elmslie's libretto is larded with telling verbal leitmotifs; Beeson's score is tonal, intensely dramatic and technically surefire; his word-setting is fluent and shapely, and the words are consistently audible. The piece lasts well under two hours, and every minute grips. Stewart Robertson's conducting, Rhoda Levine's production, and the decor by John Conklin (set) and Constance Hoffman (costumes) were simply faultless.

The mezzo Phyllis Pancella suggested the layers of Lizzie's psyche with the simplest, most telling of means, and traded blow for blow with Sheri Greenawald's outsize stepmother in their Elektra-Clytemnestra-style confrontation. The Young Artist Margaret Lloyd created a deep impression as the sister, making every single word tell over silvery soprano tone. Kelly Anderson (father), Erin Caves (suitor) and Victor Barret (the local Reverend) gave sterling support.

Cavalli's **Calisto** could scarcely have afforded greater contrast. It was performed in a new edition by Jane Glover, who also conducted: the Baroque band was authentically tiny, the pacing authentically fluid. This, you felt, was what audiences heard at Venice's Teatro S. Apollinare in 1651, but the piece spoke very directly to an audience of today. Simon Callow's production mercifully underplayed the outrageous same-sex dalliances as Jove woos the nymph Calisto in the guise of the chaste Diana, and allowed darker undertones to emerge; Juno, having turned her rival into a bear, has a long aria about the misery of wives with philandering husbands and, as sung by Christine Goerke, it caused noticeable shufflings in the stalls.

Again, the quality of the musical preparation made Cavalli's roulades and flourishes sound easy and natural: Lisa Saffer (Calisto), Bernard Deletré (the suave Jove), Christine Abraham (the fairly chaste Diana) and Drew Minter (Endymion, object of her interest) sang beautifully. The show was near-stolen by the veteran Elaine Bonazzi as the crotchety nymph Linfea: she was hilarious without ever quite going over the top, and oddly touching.

I'm not sure that Mark Lamos's production of **La finta giardiniera**, elegantly designed by Michael Yeargan, caught quite the right tone for this tricky piece — the baby Mozart who kept popping in aroused fiercely Herodian reactions in this stony breast — but under Robertson's baton it was a musical feast. Juliana Rambaldi (Sandrina) and William Burden (Belfiore) made their roles sound easy — they aren't, to put it mildly. Sondra Radvanovsky tore into the haughty Arminda with a will and Marguerite Krull's creamy, crisply defined mezzo was perfect for Ramiro. The overall vocal standard spoke clearly of weeks of painstaking preparation: Glimmerglass is fun.

Making it look — and sound — easy: Sondra Radvanovsky (Arminda) and William Burden (Belfiore) impress in Mozart's *La finta giardiniera*

Illuminated ambiguity

PROMS

Russian NO/ Pletnev
Albert Hall/Radio 3

THE Russian National Orchestra's Proms debut last week has been a semi-highlight of the season so far, its two programmes confirming more the band's reputation for refined, precisely articulated playing than its place at the top of the Russian orchestral league. Even though I must admit to a hankering for the characterful, rough-edged tone more typical of Russian orchestras, these were impressive performances from players on a gruelling tour that has taken in Finland, the Far East, Atlanta, and will continue to Edinburgh this week.

Each programme featured a great Russian postwar symphony, Shostakovich's Tenth and Prokofiev's Seventh, and both works found Mikhail Pletnev at his most illuminating. His conducting underlined their ambiguity — both were written within a few years of Stalin's notorious decree aimed at their composers and are puzzling in very different ways. Prokofiev's last symphony (1951-52) is outwardly simple but deeply enigmatic, and in the concert-waltz of the second movement Pletnev and his players conjured up the swirling magnificence with a touch of irony.

Shostakovich's symphony, written probably at the same time but released only after Stalin's death in 1953, is a darker work, and Pletnev played up the uncertainty that pervades the music. At the opening he drew dark, sonorous playing from the strings and doom-laden sounds from the brass. The Stalinesque hardness of the first movement gave way to a scherzo of terrifying force, and a sinister, mocking Allegretto — an account that made the high spirits of the finale seem all the more hollow.

A very different Russian realm was visited in the opening of Thursday's concert: three folk tale-inspired tone poems by Lyadov, the composer best remembered for not having completed Diaghilev's *Firebird* commission. *Baba-Yaga*, in spite of one passage that appears to have been lifted from the *Ride of the Valkyries*, evokes the witch of Russian folklore in kaleidoscopic music; *Kikimora* is another study in grotesquerie, and both works were given disciplined performances full of vivid colour. By contrast, *The Enchanted Lake* paints a sensuous scene, and was played with subtle delicacy.

Friday's concert gave listeners another chance to sample Schnittke's Viola Concerto, which in the 11 years since its premiere has become something of a contemporary classic. The soloist was again the work's dedicatee, Yuri Bashmet, who brought his trademark voluptuous tone to the proceedings; Pletnev gave a clear, coherent account of the score. He is a fine conductor, but not at the exalted level of his piano playing, and he can be emotionally cool: Haydn's *Military Symphony* lacked exciting dramatic contrasts, and in the Mozart Clarinet Concerto orchestral playing was overshadowed by Michael Collins's liquid tone and easy virtuosity.

JOHN ALLISON

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

Fringe events include a female dance double-bill by **Carlson Dance** and **Marie Cardona** (Springwell House, Venue 32, 8pm, today-Sat) and contemporary folk from the **Poozies** at the Famous Grouse House (Venue 34, 8.30pm today and tomorrow). Eligible for Fringe First awards are **Insurrection: The Diary of a Suffragette**, a new musical opening at Old St Paul's Church and Hall (Venue 45, 4pm; to Aug 23), while at the Garage Theatre (Venue 81), the Edinburgh-based Rough Magic Theatre Company presents **Surviving Desire** (6.20pm), **The Last Supper of Doctor Faustus** (8.20pm) and **Millennium** (11.20pm), until Aug 31. **Fringe box office** (inquiries 0131-226 5257, tickets 0131-226 5138)

LONDON

BBC PROMS 96: Edmon Colomer conducts the BBC Singers, BBC Symphony Chorus and a new, Spanish orchestra of young players — **Joven Orquesta Nacional de España** — in *The Plague*, Gerhard's setting of Camus's story *La Peste*. After the interval, the evergreen guitarist **John Williams** plays Rodrigo's popular *Concierto de Aranjuez*, followed by the universally familiar Ravel's *Bolero*. **Albert Hall**, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight, 7.30pm

EARLY MUSIC: The South Bank's August series of Early Music concerts, entitled "For Several Friends", begins today (until Sat). **The Merry Dampes**, musicians of the Globe Theatre, play consort songs and lute songs, music from Shakespeare's plays, and keyboard and ensemble settings of popular tunes. With Joanna Lunn, soprano, Roderick Williams, baritone. **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 8pm

ELSEWHERE

GUILDFORD: Gene Wilder stars in Neil Simon's latest play **Laughter on the 23rd Floor**, prior to the West End. Yvonne Arnaud, Millbrook (01483 440 000). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.45pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until August 24

SNAPE: The excellent **Borodin String Quartet** makes its second appearance at this year's Proms with string quartets by Shostakovich and Beethoven. **Snape Maltings Concert Hall**, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (01728 453 543). Tonight, 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Eva Arnold (0171-638 4141) **British Museum**: Beirut: Uncovering the Past (0171-636 1555) **Camden Arts Centre**: New Contemporaries (0171-435 2643) **Design Museum**: 100 Masterpieces: furniture that made the 20th Century (0171-378 6055) **Hayward**: Claes Oldenburg (0171-928 3144) **The Photographers' Gallery**: Larry Clark: Kids (0171-831 1772) **Royal Academy**: 228th Summer Exhibition (0171-439 7438)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **THE ASPERN PAPERS**: Michael Redgrave's slightly old-fashioned version of the Henry James tale of literary skulduggery. With Hannah Gordon, Daniel J Travanti, Moira Lister. **Wyndhams**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat 5pm

□ **BY JEEVES**: Delightful musical creation by Alan Ayckbourn and Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on the Wodehouse heroes, first attempted 20 years ago, now entirely revised. **Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, W1 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **ELVIS**: Spirited revival of the 20-year-old tribute show. P.J. Proby plays the Vegas Elvis and Tim Whitnall plays the Pelvis in his prime. Positively no emphasis on the late-night gorging on peanut butter and jello torpedoes. **Prince of Wales**, Coventry Street W1 (0171-839 5972). Mon-Thurs 8pm, Fri and Sat, 5.30 and 8.30pm.

□ **FERRY 'CROSS THE MERSEY**: Gerry and the Pacemakers, singing the story of, yes, Gerry and the Pacemakers, who had their first No 1 hit one month before the Beatles. **Lyric**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.15pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat 5pm. Until Sept 7.

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with David Ross as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Estelle Kohler as the pillars of society.

Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm.

□ **THE LIGHTS**: Howard Korder's drama of a journey through the New York nightmare. Ends with the cast attacking the theatre, fittingly, because after the run the interior will be rebuilt. **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until August 31

□ **NORTHANGER ABBEY**: Sarah Jane Holm plays Jane Austen's young fan of the Gothic shock-horror romance. Matthew Francis directs a pleasing adaptation. **Greenwich**, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until August 17.

□ **THE ODD COUPLE**: Neil Simon's play wears well, but Jack Klugman and Tony Randall really are getting on a bit these days. **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat 8.15pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

□ **RICHARD III**: David Troughton plays the king as a psychopathic court jester in Steven Pimlott's arresting production, up from Stratford. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm. In rep.

□ **SALAD DAYS**: Julian Slade's tuneful musical, directed by Ned Sherrin. Nicola Fullames and Simon Connolly play the young lovers in a company that also includes Kit and the Widow. **Vaudeville**, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat 4pm.

□ **WAR AND PEACE**: Shared Experience's treatment of Tolstoy's novel tells the story but forfeits the feel and context. **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 6.30pm; mat Wed, midday. In rep.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ... □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (0171-494 5070) ... ◪ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) ◪ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ... □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) ... ◪ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ... ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

AUGUST (PG): Awkward film of *Uncle Vanya* transferred to Wales in the late 19th century, directed by, and starring, Anthony Hopkins. With Leslie Phillips and Kate Burton. **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030)

◆ **INDEPENDENCE DAY** (12): Aliens invade America's sides in this outsize popcorn feast starring Jeff Goldblum, Will Smith and Bill Pullman. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915 683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914 501) **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen on Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen on the Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

THE SECRET OF ROAN INISH (PG): Wonderful Celtic folk tale with a realistic slant, filmed in Ireland by writer-director John Sayles. **ABC Panton Street** (0171-930 0631) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE STUPIDS** (PG): Mirthless comedy about America's stupidest family. With Tom Arnold and Jessica Lundy. Director, John Landis. **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426-915 574)

CURRENT

◆ **THE CABLE GUY** (12): Obnoxious comedy with Jim Carrey as a pathological cable television technician. Director, Ben Stiller. **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888 990) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **FLIPPER** (PG): A surly teenager rebels with a dolphin. Unimaginative family film, with Elijah Wood and Paul Hogan. Director, Alan Shapiro. **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **Plaza** (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888 990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME** (U): Victor Hugo meets the Disney animators. A perverse, and perversely successful, mix of the cuddly and downbeat. **MGM: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE** (PG): Rousing set-pieces dwarf the stars, even Tom Cruise's special agent. Director, Brian De Palma. **Empire** (0990 888 990) **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888 990) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888 990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

LA REGLE DU JEU (PG): New print of Renoir's 1939 masterpiece, a wonderful portrait of French society. With Marcel Dalio and Nora Gregor. **Riverside** (0181-748 3354)

◆ **TWISTER** (PG): Cardboard characters chase tornadoes. Great special effects, but repetition softens the impact. With Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton. Director, Jan De Bont. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** (0990 888990) **MGM: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

Glyndebourne Festival Opera with The London Philharmonic tonight, Thurs 15, Sat 17 at 5.55pm. Ariadne, Tues 13, Fri 16 at 5pm. Lulu, Wed 14 at 5.15pm. Sun 18 at 4.15pm. Arabella. For possible returned tickets call 01273 813813.

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Matthew Parris

■ Incidents and accidents make the news, but we will never be prepared for them if we don't look beyond

Since what follows is not about abortion, why have I contrived to get the word into my first sentence? Because for columnists, there is a presumption that the selection of topics for discussion should, where possible, be driven by events. No journalist can ignore it. I regret that.

Two Mondays ago, few of us had heard of selective foetal abortion, and many had never heard of Queen Charlotte's Hospital. If a *Times* columnist had devoted an essay to the pros and cons of aborting one out of two twins on the ground that a hypothetical pregnant woman felt she could cope only with one baby, his Editor would have politely wondered why on earth he had chosen to write such a piece. So would many of his readers. If the columnist had replied that the conjectured dilemma might have occurred already without being reported, could easily occur in the future, and sooner or later probably would, his Editor might politely have suggested that he wait until it did.

If, last Monday, following revelations about just such a case in the *Sunday Express*, a *Times* columnist had dreamt up — again, just for the sake of argument — a different case in which a mother expecting octuplets faced the choice whether to sacrifice six of them for the health of the remaining two, his Editor might have raised an eyebrow as the columnist protested that, even though this had not happened, it might. But the Editor would have accepted that at least his columnist was in the right ball-park, if playing a fanciful game.

Today, after news of just such a case in the weekend's papers, those Fleet Street columnists who are not writing about the arrival of aliens from Mars are asking themselves whether there can now be any justification for writing about any subject but abortion, twins and octuplets.

It is therefore disingenuous of the "pro-choice" brigade (to which, with troubled heart, I belong) to accuse the "pro-life" brigade of "latching on to" or "exploiting" personal agonies to advance their own causes. For this is the only way one can interest the media in any argument these days. "Pro-lifers" are always trying to raise issues like these, but while the debate relates to hypotheticals, British journalism is simply not interested. So you can hardly blame the protagonists for seizing the only opportunities our news-led media offer. They know that within weeks the short season of interest in their argument will be over, and they will have to revert to leafleting delegates at party conferences and mailing unsolicited pamphlets — until the next "real life" example occurs.

Are we too stupid, as a nation, to conceptualise any longer? Has the fast-moving succession of pictures of tangibles, with which TV channels compete to hold our attention, dulled our capacity or removed our imaginative need for speculative reasoning?

Is this now a country in which rail safety cannot be discussed until a train has crashed, in which abortion is boring until a real human drama grips our emotions, and in which the howling irresolvables at the centre of the Labour Party's beliefs go unacknowledged until a woman of only average intelligence but media prominence places on record what has for years been plain to the meanest intellect in the land?

Is it only — or even? — at Oxbridge philosophy tutorials that students are asked, any more, to begin with the argument using practical examples only as an aid to understanding? Am I naïve to imagine there might be a few people left in Britain to whom it would not be necessary to explain why it is completely immaterial to an argument whether the cases discussed have or have not actually occurred, so long as they very well might have?

> Are we now unable to engage in debate without particular cases to get us going?

I fear the worst. If so, the *Sunday Express* would have been absolutely right to run the story: as current even if they had known that it was weeks out of date. Why not take this editorial practice to its logical conclusion? Instead of waiting upon the vagaries of circumstance to provide the pegs on which to hang necessary arguments, the press could keep extensive archives of unused tales, some of them decades old. Depending on need, editorial whim or a summer news-famine, these tales could then be exhumed and paraded, posing as modern instances, to catch the public imagination in due season.

Or why not just make them up? Television soap operas already accept a responsibility to "set the agenda". Scriptwriters trigger public debate on an important issue by introducing a heart-wrenching fictional dilemma into their storylines. So how about an emergency debate (when MPs return) on the issues aired by the failed lesbian marriage of Zoe Tate and Emma Nightingale in *Emmerdale*? Is raven-haired fitness-instructor Linda, 31, right to console Zoe in the way she has, given her complicity in the break-up? Has she broken any moral or social obligation by her recent pass at that other blonde?

And why don't we have a leading article on *that*, eh, Mr Editor of *The Times*?

Bob Dole's running-mate will revive Reagan Republicanism, giving the party back its tax-cutting appeal

Why Kemp could be just the ticket

William Rees-Mogg

The decision to put Jack Kemp on the Republican ticket is far the best thing that has happened to that campaign so far. He is a genuinely interesting American politician, a man of the people who is also a man of ideas. I watched his brief acceptance speech live on CNN. He made two important points. The first was his identification of the Republican Party with two popular Presidents, Lincoln and Reagan; he referred to Reagan twice. He is already campaigning as a Reagan Republican. That is as significant as it would be if a successor to John Major announced that he was campaigning as a Thatcher Conservative. Kemp has repudiated, by implication, the consensus Republicanism of George Bush.

The second important statement was that he regards Bob Dole's promise to cut taxes as only the first instalment of a bigger and longer-term policy. Jack Kemp supported Steve Forbes and the flat-tax proposal in the primaries. He is a committed supply-sider, a believer in cutting taxes and in reducing the size of government. With Dole, this has been a conversion, forced on him by the mood of the Republican Party and by the failure of the earlier stages of his campaign. With Kemp it is a settled conviction, held for many years. He was ideologically a Reagan Republican when Nixon was still in the White House.

I first met Jack Kemp in the mid 1970s, at a meeting of the Council for Monetary Reform and Education in New York State. He was then still very famous as a recently retired American footballer. Like Ronald Reagan, he came from a world of sport and entertainment which had a strong appeal for industrial America. He had been born in California, but his constituency in the House of Representatives was Buffalo, the rust-belt industrial city in northern New York State. As a Republican he repeatedly carried Buffalo, with his percentage of the vote going into the high seventies.

At the CMRE meetings we were discussing the world inflation of the 1970s. I was sympathetic to a restoration of the gold-standard system; President Nixon had only terminated American gold convertibility in 1971. That had opened the floodgates of the great inflation, or so it seemed to us. Jack Kemp was equally sympathetic to gold — indeed he once read a pro-gold article that I had written for *The Times* into the Congressional Record. What struck me at the time was his conviction that the Republicans could sell a new economic policy to the American people only if it was going to make them better off in terms of jobs, taxes and their own real incomes. He was both a monetarist and an expansionist.

Jack Kemp's personal experience is rooted in Buffalo, in his work as the congressman for a city suffering the problems of advanced industrial decline. In the 1970s he was already arguing that solutions must be found for these old industrial areas subject to new competition. His objective was to reach a dynamic balance with a high rate of job creation, rather than a static one which accepted the status quo of big government. When last Saturday he attacked President Clinton's status quo policies, he was not just picking up a convenient argument, he was repeating what I heard him say more than 20 years ago. As a radical supply-sider, he has always rejected status quo policies of the Left or Right.

During the Republican primaries, these supply-side, Reaganite, flat-tax policies were advocated by Steve Forbes, the millionaire publisher, who did surprisingly well considering he had never run for any public office before. Kemp supported Forbes, even though Dole was winning. Indeed, when Forbes told him that he had $20 million of his own money to spend on the race, Kemp said to him, "Why don't you give me the $20 million and let me run for president?" The reason Bob Dole has had to put Kemp on the ticket, after 20 years of disagreement on political and economic policy, is that he has been forced to accept low-tax policies. Kemp is the only Republican with a record which can authenticate this Dole conversion.

If you could run Reaganism against Clintonism head-to-head, I do not doubt that Reaganism would win. Unfortunately, it is not as easy as that. Bill Clinton is the incumbent President in the later stages of an American boom. Jack Kemp, who is a true Reagan Republican, is only the vice-presidential candidate, while Bob Dole, who is by nature a Nixon Republican, is head of the ticket. Bill Clinton has a current lead of about 20 per cent in the polls, a very big lead for this stage of the campaign. The Democrats will exploit the record of the past differences between Dole and Kemp. It is not inconceivable that Dole and Kemp will win the presidential race, but it is not very likely.

Nevertheless, the advantages for the Republicans of nominating Kemp will be substantial. He has agreed to join the ticket because Dole has agreed to fight on a tax-cutting platform, which Kemp will articulate in all of his speeches. That campaign has already begun. This means that for the first time since 1988, the Republicans are a Reaganite rather than a consensus party. That goes a long way to making Ross Perot irrelevant: he had his political hour as a protest against the soft consensus policies of George Bush. Any Reagan voter who casts a ballot for Perot when Jack Kemp is on the Republican ticket will be making a big mistake.

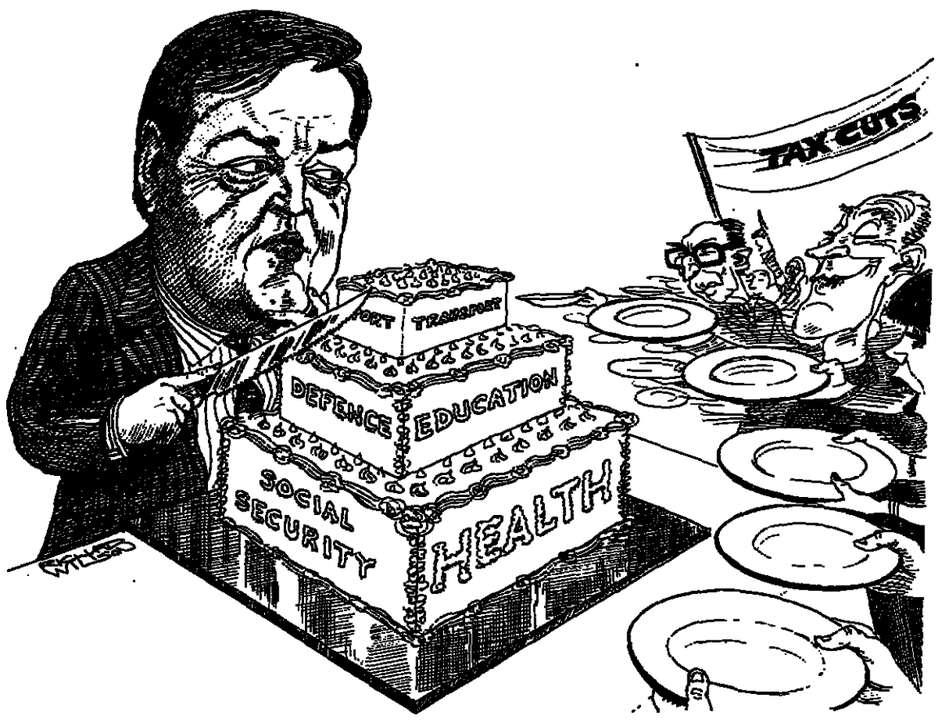
Ronald Reagan won elections partly because he was able to mobilise the hard-hat Republican vote: he had the same appeal to working-class conservatives as Margaret Thatcher had in Britain. In the Republican primaries, some of this support went to Pat Buchanan, who is a skilful conservative populist, and some to Steve Forbes as the low-tax advocate. Jack Kemp will remobilise much of this support. In thinking about his appeal, one has to remember football as well as Buffalo. He is like a Conservative candidate in Britain who has both played for Newcastle United and won a 3-1 majority in a Newcastle seat. This matters far more to the public than his ability as a young ex-footballer to take on Professor Kaldor in a monetary debate and reach an honourable draw.

I suspect his immediate political impact will help Dole, but [illegible] enough, and will help Republican candidates for the House and Senate. The Republicans will win back the reputation that George Bush threw away as the reliable low-tax party. Jack Kemp gives the Republicans a dominant theme for the future. After President Reagan retired there was inevitably a move away from Reaganism, just as John Major has moved away from Thatcherism. That period in America is now over, and Reaganism is back in control — Bob Dole has found out the hard way that he did not have a chance without it.

The essence of Reaganism is smaller government, lower taxes, more jobs, local populism rather than Washington élitism, and patriotism, the feeling for America. The essence of Thatcherism is very similar. The experience of American politics is that this is a winning combination, and that consensus conservatism is not. It may well be too late to win back the presidency in 1996. The decision to put Jack Kemp on the ticket improves the Republicans' chances of holding their majority in Congress in 1996 and of winning the presidency in 2000.

Whichever way you slice it

Tax-cutters should not forget voters' appetite for welfare, says **Peter Riddell**



Whenever a politician proposes sweeping tax reductions — as Bob Dole did last week with his $548 billion cuts package — I become suspicious. It sounds too good to be true, and usually is. Either the economic assumptions are far too optimistic or the cuts in spending are vague — or both, as in the Dole plan. Just as politicians of the Left pretend that existing public services can for ever be improved without raising the tax burden, so those of the Right often claim that taxes can be cut substantially without any impact on core public programmes. Both views are in the long term unsustainable.

For the 30 years after 1945, voters in most countries were willing to accept a rising tax burden to pay for expanding public services, whether roads, higher education or social benefits. That changed after the inflationary explosion of the mid 1970s when the Labour Government, like those overseas, sought to check the growth in spending. Well before the Thatcher revolution, Denis Healey recognised the resistance among working families, and Labour supporters, to paying more in taxes. Ironically, it was Tony Crosland, the leading ideologist of social democracy, who signalled the shift in spending trends, with his remark in 1975 to local councils that "the party is over".

The Tories have often been criticised for failing to cut back spending. But, apart from the relaxation of the early 1990s, they have achieved a lot. The share of spending in national income fell from a peak of more than 47 per cent in the mid 1970s, and just over 45 per cent in the recession of the early 1980s, to a low of 38 per cent in the boom of the late 1980s, before rising to 43 per cent during the downturn of the early 1990s. The Thatcher Governments cut subsidies for nationalised industries and public housebuilding, and in the 1990s there have been efficiency gains from contracting-out and changes in the structure of the health service, plus cuts in the defence budget after the end of the Cold War. Successive attempts to trim social security have produced large cumulative savings.

Nonetheless, public spending has grown steadily in real terms, because the public overwhelmingly still wants schools and a health service that are free at the point of use, and extensive social benefits. Kenneth Clarke is one of the few politicians publicly to admit that if the present structure of the welfare state is maintained, as he wishes, it will be hard to reduce the share of spending much below 40 per cent. By implication, the tax burden could fall only a little. Even that goal has required continuing squeezes on pay and other running costs, and cuts in capital investment, producing complaints about lower standards of public services and inadequate spending on infrastructure.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

So frightened is the Blairite "new" Labour Party of any hint of higher taxes that it has tried to wish the problem away. It has pretended that apart from a few flagship pledges financed in a gimmicky and one-off fashion, merely ruling out new spending commitments will make demands for better services disappear. Many on the Right behave as if tax cuts could somehow be financed from waste in Whitehall and social security fraud without challenging core commitments. There is always some scope at the margin, but such savings cannot begin to finance a big reduction in the tax burden.

The only solution consistent with holding down taxes, let alone cutting them substantially, is to accept that the supply of services does not have to be limited to what the taxpayer will finance. As Lord Skidelsky has argued, and as the Social Market Foundation has shown in several studies, there is no reason why demand should be suppressed by the imposition of a public finance limit on supply. A shift in the balance of public versus private financing has occurred in pensions and is increasingly accepted in higher education. An expansion of private insurance and vouchers (implicit in Labour's lifetime learning plans) looks certain whoever wins the election.

As it is, most politicians avoid these questions. The Dole plan is worse than most, as its author would have been the first to argue during his days in the Senate. He has exempted politically sensitive areas of defence, social security (that is, pensions) and most Medicare health provision for the elderly. This leaves huge, unspecified cuts in other domestic programmes, which account for only a third of total spending. Much has been made of President Clinton's decision to sign the Republican Bill cutting benefits to poor families with children, but that does not touch the big pension and health programmes.

Moreover, in a nod towards supply-siders, including Jack Kemp, his vice-presidential choice, Mr Dole assumes that more than a quarter of the cost of tax cuts will be recouped by higher tax revenues generated by faster growth. But the Reagan years showed that across-the-board tax cuts without comparable spending reductions merely push up the budget deficit and interest rates. Reducing high marginal tax rates and freeing markets should stimulate investment and job creation in the long term, but it is foolish to assume any short-term boost to tax revenues. The Federal Reserve's balanced monetary policies, rather than sweeping tax cuts, have been the key to the strength of the American economy.

The Tory Right has so far avoided these errors, but like Mr Dole it has been reluctant to address the unresolved dilemma left over from the Reagan and Thatcher years: voters do not want to pay higher taxes, but they remain attached to a wide-ranging welfare state. As the leaked Treasury planning paper suggested, a "Contract with Britain", aiming for a smaller State, "would probably meet even greater resistance" here than in America. There only limited parts of the *Contract with America* have been enacted, because of public opposition to rolling back government. But without radical reform of the financing of the main social programmes, big tax cuts are an illusion.

Brit flop

BRITISH pop stars are being lined up to rescue President Clinton's 50th birthday party. On Friday, details of a guestlist for the party were made public, showing the lavish efforts the White House is making to gather together Hollywood's beautiful people in tribute to the President in this election year.

Attached was a B-list of celebrites to be used in desperation at the party to be staged at Radio City Music Hall in New York. According to the *New York Post*, these included our very own Elton John and Rod Stewart, as well as the Irish band the Chieftains. To compound the insult, the A-list is said to include Kenny Rogers, Cher, Carly Simon, Roberta Flack and the reedy-voiced Phil Collins.

Hillary Clinton is in charge of the organisation of what was supposed to be the splashiest presidential birthday party since 1962, when Marilyn Monroe sang a smoky *Happy Birthday* to John F. Kennedy, who was rumoured to be her lover

So far, however, the party planners have found celebrities hard to come by. Among those said to be unavailable are the Paul McCartneys (talk of an illness), the Warren Beattys (pregnancy), Tina Turner (in France) and Jack Nicklaus (on the golf course). Understandably enough, the White House memorandum on which the *New York Post* based its story was said to have been marked "This needs SERIOUS attention".

Stewart: B-list

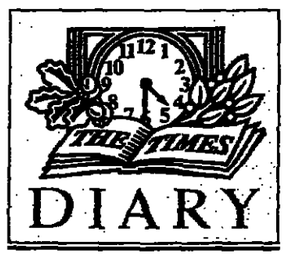
● *Suggestions continue to roll in for putative Olympic sports at which Britain might stand a chance of a medal. John Rigby, a vet from Walton on the Naze, suggests the great British pastime of tiddly-winks, with a golden tiddle (or wink) going to the winner. "But surely the sport most deserving of Olympic recognition," he adds, "is charades."*

Man talk

FEMALE penetration of the government whips' office — by Jacqui Lait, the MP for Hastings and Rye — has not yet brought a change of habits among the otherwise all-male crew there. When she was appointed in last month's reshuffle, she became the first woman ever to serve in this robustly male bastion of Conservatism.

In trying to show his approval of Mrs Lait, Alastair Goodlad, the jovial chief whip, has been heard to struggle before resorting to traditionally the highest form of whips' praise: Lait, he nods, is most definitely "a good man".

● *Note to Trevor Nunn, soon to take over at the National Theatre: there is a lean, hungry look about the spear-carriers currently working at the National. Now it is clear why: the backstage grub is lousy. To paraphrase Napoleon, a theatrical troupe plays on its stomach, so a petition is being kept at the stage door complaining about the quality of food. "Bland, tasteless and too expensive," is the tough verdict.*



Irish joke

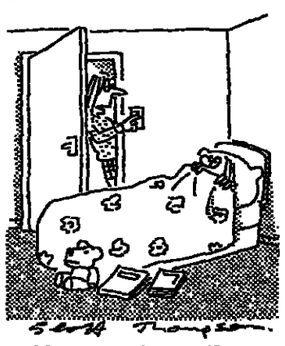
GALLOWS HUMOUR is firmly back in favour among the security forces in Northern Ireland. Amid the stand-off between nationalists and loyalist marchers in Londonderry last week, a poster went up in the RUC headquarters in East Belfast advertising "Drumcree Holidays '97". It promised special four to five-day breaks and new thrills including a ride on the Big Orange Dipper and "inflatable dolls — Paisley £7, Trimble £5". Paisley is more expensive, explains the poster, because he is bigger and holds more hot air.

A "vintage car rally — all newly burned-out cars" is also advertised in the spoof, alongside a plug for "The Sky at Night" — when the Portadown evening is lit up with spontaneous bonfires.

Pax humana

EVEN Jeremy Paxman, the putative cat-strangler of Shepherds Bush, is being ground down by the vile London Underground drivers' strikes. A keen cyclist, Paxman was sighted on the day of the last strike gasping his way past the Victoria and Albert Museum, his face like that of a Tour de France cyclist straining for the top of Alpe d'Huez.

"I saw this figure approaching very slowly through Knightsbridge," says my witness. "He kept taking his feet off the pedals and didn't seem to be a man in control of his machine. He looked pained, fed-up and exhausted." Rather like one of his *Newsnight* victims?



Now go to sleep or Tony Blair will come and get you

Kidd stuff

TIRED of the endless talk about her waistline, Jodie Kidd has put her modelling career on ice and retreated to the countryside to mix dance records. Last year, Miss Kidd, a great-grandaughter of the newspaper baron Lord Beaverbrook, caused much chest-beating among fashion editors as her near-skeletal features swayed down the catwalks. "Have we brought models to this?" they wailed.

Bored with the gaunt taunts and the forkfuls of food being pushed her way, Miss Kidd retired to hideaways at her father's Caribbean estate and in the English countryside. She is learning all about turntables and beats per minute from her boyfriend, Joel "Double" Chinn, 23, who is not the sort to flinch from a plate of chips. Their first release, a trance-dance number, is expected by the end of this month.

Kidd: model pupil

P·H·S

TAX AND TRUST

Dole must use the convention to define himself

With the opening of the Republican National Convention in San Diego, a long wait finally ends for Bob Dole. Twenty years have passed since he was nominated as Vice-President. Sixteen years have gone since he first sought the presidency. It has been an agonisingly slow process in another sense. Five months have elapsed since Mr Dole became the *de facto* candidate. He has lived on a shoestring budget since then and found it difficult to engage the attention of voters. That goes at least a part of the way to explaining why he enters this convention so far behind in the polls.

This week represents Mr Dole's great opportunity. For a man who has been a prominent figure in Washington for two decades he still has a fuzzy image with the American public. His legislative achievement as Leader of the Senate is a list of deals made and compromises brokered to pass the bills of others. His character is a mixture of abrasiveness and modesty, both of which he exhibits to excess. Mr Dole needs to use this convention to define himself and stress three aspects of leadership that can differentiate him from President Clinton: purpose, consistency and dignity.

For most of this year, Mr Dole has not offered a stirring message. Like George Bush before him, he has given the impression of wanting the White House more for being there than for doing something. This is neither inspiring nor sufficient. The most striking presidents of the postwar era — John Kennedy and Ronald Reagan — were closely associated with vivid ideals. Bill Clinton is an able salesman of himself but his early vision has been clouded by strategic defeats and tactical manoeuvrings

In the past seven days there has been one major advance by Mr Dole. A campaign based on character has found a centrepiece in a bold economic plan, albeit of the kind that he has frequently fought against in the past. This new commitment to cut taxes has been reinforced by the imaginative selection of Jack Kemp as running-mate. Having discovered his mission, Mr Dole will have to repeat it ceaselessly and resist all temptation to stray from it.

His second front should be consistency. The Clinton Administration, both at home and in foreign affairs, has often appeared chaotic and crisis-driven, with little common thread other than an excessive respect for opinion pollsters. It is a telling truth that the political recovery of Mr Clinton has come only since the smashing defeat of his own Democratic Party in 1994. This gave the President a less active role in domestic matters, allowing him the freedom to engage in the symbolic functions of his post. He has done this effectively. Mr Dole must use his experience to claim that he can produce a more professional all-round performance.

The final dimension is the dignity of the presidential office itself. It was perhaps inevitable that with the Cold War closing, the Commander-in-Chief would play a less prominent political role. It may even be in the better interest of American democracy. That shift has, however, been exaggerated by the Clinton tenure's multiple strands of scandal. Americans should be made to ask what the price of four more years would be. Mr Dole is entitled to assert that he has the qualities needed to restore the necessary decorum to the most important executive position in the world.

There is thus a powerful argument for the Dole-Kemp ticket. There is a rather better case than has been presented to the American electorate so far. A successful convention can do much to move this contest towards terrain favourable for Republicans. Mr Dole's acceptance speech can lay out the differences between himself and the President in policy and personal terms. The twin themes of tax and trust are compelling. Mr Dole has a moving story to tell and a fine career to highlight. He has to do that throughout the convention this week. He will not have a better chance.

TO PLAY THE MAN

The Conservatives' campaign is daring but not discreditable

The latest Tory attack on Labour reveals more about the Government than it does about the Opposition. In choosing to aim at Tony Blair personally the Conservatives have directed their fire at what has been, so far, Labour's greatest asset — its leader. The decision to attack Mr Blair, months before the expected election date, shows no small daring on the part of Tory strategists.

Some Tories will feel that Central Office should have kept its powder dry. Others will regret that it used a blunderbuss. But if party strategists can succeed, however crudely, in crystallising voters' concerns about Mr Blair now, the Tories' task will be easier as polling day approaches.

Some at Westminster will affect to be offended by a strategy so negative and so personal, arguing that the public will react with distaste. But negative campaigning need be no more than critical scrutiny of the pretensions to govern of the opponent. The Conservatives were attacked for the crudity of their "tax bombshell" and "double whammy" advertisements during the last general election campaign: but the dinner-party deprecators, alone with their fears in the voting booth, voted Tory nonetheless.

The Tory attack is personal: but all parties have made their pitches to the public more presidential and their leaders fairer game. Labour has benefited greatly over the last two years from the enthusiasm engendered by Mr Blair's election. However, the last two months have seen a shift in public attitudes. Although Mr Blair's party is still well ahead in the polls his own ratings have slipped.

There is evidence, gathered for James Capel by Opinion Research Business, that former Tories have new doubts about new Labour. The ruthlessness with which Mr Blair demoted Clare Short made some voters uneasy. The platitudinous nature of new Labour's rhetoric, although clumsily parodied by the Tories, had already begun to grate. The softening of Labour's policy positions, on issues from devolution to the social chapter, had created an impression of glib untrustworthiness.

The Conservatives clearly hope to give shape to these emerging doubts by defining Mr Blair as arrogant and unprincipled. They aspire to transform him from electoral asset to albatross. Tory strategists believe that Mr Blair's determination to win could be presented as a will to power at any price, much in the way that Neil Kinnock's strengths of passion and platform eloquence became seen as damaging "windbaggery".

It is an audacious strategy, and it has clear dangers. Ruthlessness is what many voters want. The perception that dissent from the Left will be crushed is precisely the guarantee many disaffected Tories require. A willingness to marginalise extremists and tailor policy to Middle England's prejudices may only endear Mr Blair more to voters ill at ease with John Major's leadership style.

Ultimately, there is no easy way attractively to package the damaged goods that make up this Government. A willingness to tackle Mr Blair head-on at least demonstrates a renewed spirit. What will be required before that spirit can be translated into votes is a convincing analysis from the Conservatives of all the dangers that new Labour might pose and inspiring answers to the challenges a new millennium will bring.

FEATHERED ENEMIES

The RSPB should reconsider its position on predators

As the guns blaze out their annual paean to the Glorious Twelfth today, a dispute has broken out on the fringes of the grouse moor that is every bit as fiery and cacophonous. A five-year experiment conducted on a Scottish moor by the Duke of Buccleuch, and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, has produced awkward findings for many conservationists. It found that a ban on the shooting of birds of prey allowed their numbers so to increase that they not only decimated thriving colonies of game birds, but also led to catastrophic falls in other protected species.

The experiment at Langholm was the culmination of a movement among bird-lovers and conservationists to stop game-keepers culling predators such as peregrine falcons, hen harriers and sparrow hawks. These beautiful birds, whose historic associations, elegance in flight and fierce magnificence have entranced generations of Britons, were in sharp decline. In recent years, however, a concerted attempt has been made to boost their numbers, protect their habitat and foster their breeding habits. The experiment, on 25,000 acres of moorland, was intended to show that, unmolested by man, birdlife will find a natural balance.

The results are a terrible disappointment for the predator-protectors. Rare heathland birds such as golden plover and curlew were hunted almost to extinction by their feathered enemies. Grouse numbers on what was once one of Scotland's finest estates have fallen so steeply that they may never recover. The local economy is threatened. The Duke of Buccleuch — whose forbearance made the experiment possible — may now feel justified in calling for an immediate curb on the predators, and the RSPB will find powerful arguments opposing its long-held call for man to allow nature to take its course.

Several conclusions seem inevitable. The first is that in an island so crowded where natural conditions have for centuries been distorted by man, it is unrealistic now to adopt a hands-off approach to all species. Where predators are reintroduced, even the sea eagles of western Scotland, they may only be able to be brought back in limited numbers if they are not to upset the balance enjoyed by man.

The second conclusion is that anything that reduces game stock so drastically is bound to run into the opposition of landowners and field sportsmen. Thirdly, conservationists should recognise that birds of prey are probably more able to survive in today's environment than their prey. Peregrines have been found nesting in city centres, and hawks can forage for carrion on motorways. It is the weaker birds that deserve protection, including game birds such as the grey partridge whose numbers are falling despite the fine efforts of the Game Conservancy Trust. The RSPB should look at the Langholm findings and ask whether its absolutist stand is still tenable.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Deeper concerns in Tube dispute

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers

Sir, Contrary to the opinion outlined in your leading article on the Underground dispute ("Down the Tube", August 7) the dispute is not about the right of management to manage, far less the organisation of holiday rosters.

The dispute arose because of the failure of management to deliver on an agreement it reached last year with the unions on reduced working time. Management's right to manage does not give them the right to tear up agreements negotiated in good faith.

It is ironic that you should point to the improvement in the performance of London Underground as a reason why "today's strikers should not prevail". Operating profits per member of staff rose from £7,045 in 1994-95 to £12,246 in 1995-96. Unit costs per train mile fell by 7 per cent over the same period while overall productivity rose by 8.6 per cent. These improvements were achieved by Underground workers, including the drivers you now seek to pillory.

Yet there is a price to pay for this. Your leading article talks about management's freedom to initiate and innovate. These initiatives include asking drivers to ignore safety guidelines to meet timetable targets and forcing sick staff back to work under the pain of discipline.

There is now a real and growing problem with stress among Underground workers. This is acknowledged by the company. Last year, as part of a programme to tackle the problem, the unions called for a reduction in working time to be achieved over a period of years and we agreed a weekly reduction of one hour in 1996 to "benefit train staff".

The company reneged on the deal. Yet at the same time, the executive directors felt able to justify paying themselves massive bonuses because of the improvements made by staff. The unions do not object to these payments in principle, but simply ask for equality of treatment.

After a week spent at Acas where the *only* initiatives came from the unions — including an unprecedented offer to accept wage increases below the rate of inflation for three years to help pay for reduced working time — we are drawn to the conclusion that London Underground is happy to put passengers through another month of misery. Whether this was for political or other reasons remains unclear to me.

It is a peculiarly one-eyed view to suggest that management alone are responsible for improvements in performance. We can still negotiate our way out of the difficulty but London Underground Limited has to show a willingness to do so — something that has been absent until now.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES KNAPP,
General Secretary,
National Union of Rail,
Maritime and Transport Workers,
Unity House, Euston Road, NW1.
August 7.

Postal strike

From Mr Robin Rhoderick-Jones

Sir, Today I have no post. Tomorrow, no doubt, I shall have the usual small pile of personal letters, ominous brown bills and marketing trash in roughly equal quantities delivered — despite the fact that I live miles from anywhere — by the ever-cheerful Roger in his little red van at about 6.30am. Under normal circumstances this happens six days a week: some addresses have two deliveries a day.

This is an admirable service and one that, in my experience, is surpassed by no other postal authority in the world: but it is expensive. Do we really need a delivery every day; does anyone actually depend on a second delivery?

The postal strike, if it does nothing else, seems to me to point up the absurdity of a luxury that we could well do without.

Why not move to a system of no deliveries and minimal collection on Saturdays as well as Sundays? This would save a great deal of money and also remove at least some of the postal workers' grievances. Urgent communications between businesses could still be transacted by e-mail, fax or the telephone. The rest could surely wait.

Yours by fax,
ROBIN RHODERICK-JONES,
Middle St Andrew's Wood,
Dulford, Cullompton, Devon.
August 6.

Wildlife, W1

From Mr Thomas Cave

Sir, The £6 game licence I purchased yesterday from the post office in Albemarle Street, W1, has a serial number three higher than that I bought from there almost exactly a year ago.

Surely more than two other denizens of the St James's/Piccadilly areas have shot game in the last 12 months?

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS CAVE,
Berry Bros and Rudd,
3 St James's Street, SW1.
August 8.

Sport letters, page 34

Serious issues and 'tabloid' TV

From Mrs Pauline Simpson

Sir, We were interested to read your reports (August 6 and 7) of Dr Stuttaford's unhappy experiences on Esther Rantzen's BBC programme on ME (letters, August 10). A Scope director recently had a similar impression of being "thrown to the lions" when he was filmed for a future *Rantzen Report*, this one on the use of advocates for vulnerable people.

We were asked to take part because of the widely reported mistreatment by a care worker of children at one of our schools and of the ensuing inquiry. You do not, nor should you expect, to get an easy interview on a subject like that. However, we agreed to take part in the programme, partly because we feel we have a duty to explain when things go wrong, and partly because we feel that the issue of advocates and protection of vulnerable people is important.

Unfortunately, as with the ME programme, our director's attempts at serious debate were lost in the Punch and Judy show atmosphere in the studio, with an audience apparently geared up to boo and hiss at the baddy. It is not yet clear whether the "goodies" fared much better. People who took part in the programme were obviously distressed; their very real emotions, it seemed, were to be dished up for the delectation of the audience.

Of course, Scope (and, I'm sure, Dr Stuttaford, too) can survive a bit of heckling, but is this really any way to deal with serious issues? This is zoo TV, tabloid TV at its worst, and the critics are right to condemn it.

Yours faithfully,
PAULINE SIMPSON
(Director of Marketing),
Scope (formerly The Spastics Society),
12 Park Crescent, W1.
August 7.

Slipping of Civil Service standards

From Dr J. H. Bridgman

Sir, The letter from Lord Taylor of Gryfe (August 6) about the privatisation of the Recruitment and Assessment Service raises an issue that ought to be more widely aired.

For a century and a half Britain has had a Civil Service staffed by people recruited on merit through a system of competitive examination and interviews by boards containing independent chairmen and members. As a result of this, the Civil Service, whatever its other weaknesses, has been remarkably free of nepotism, cronyism and political favouritism; and the infrequent financial scandals have been rare enough to be shocking.

We take this for granted until we encounter the public services of other countries.

The last few years have seen a progressive dismantling of this system. Recruitment has been largely delegated to departments themselves, including recruitment of the middling grade of Executive Officer, which has been the starting point of many senior careers. This took so much business away that the boards of independent people were disbanded.

The Civil Service Commission was reduced to a very small unit concerned with the generalities of "good practice" and recruiting was hived off to an agency with the commercial outlook that this implies.

Privatisation of the agency is the inevitable next step. Who now will see that we get the civil servants we think we deserve?

Yours faithfully,
JOAN BRIDGMAN,
The Lodge, Church Hill,
High Littleton, Somerset.
August 8.

Dogma and reality

From Mr David Johnson

Sir, "Always a loyal friend of the Soviet Union" (obituary of Aruna Asaf Ali, August 8). How long will it be before these words constitute the accepted definition of loyalty to dogma in denial of reality?

Your obituarist unwittingly raises the wider issue of the UK's responsibility for India's postwar performance than has perhaps been admitted so far. The founders of independent India imbibed their socialist ideals at the feet of the ruling intellectual elite of the LSE, notably the Webbs.

We British, pragmatists that we are, did not fall for such an easy Utopia and soon abandoned it.

The Indians, unfortunately, believed it and attempted to implement it. The result is the unbelievably bureaucratic controlled economy which is only now beginning to unravel. That such an approach is not genetically predetermined is evidenced by the economic success of emigrée Indians the world over.

It must be an awful legacy to have the world realise that one's life was dedicated to a system that has been totally discredited.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID JOHNSON,
10 Thornton Road,
Wimbledon Village, SW19.
August 8.

Noisy neighbours

From Mr Jason Stacey

Sir, Rachel Kelly's article, "Now noisy neighbours may face the music" (Homes, July 31), may have given readers the impression that people are now liable for on-the-spot fines of £100 for noise made between 11pm and 7am that is above the legally allowed 35 decibels. This is not the case.

Whilst the Noise Bill, introduced by Harry Greenway, MP, received its Royal Assent just before Parliament rose for the summer recess, the Act won't be enacted until probably April 1, 1997, to allow technical considerations to be agreed and local authorities time to adopt the measures in full.

Additionally, the article implies that it is up to the individual contacting the environmental health departments of local authorities to "prove" that the noise is a statutory nuisance. In fact individuals will not have to do this.

After receiving a complaint, local environmental health officers will visit the properties concerned and measure the noise being made with a standardised noise-measuring unit. It is this device that will prove whether the noise level is above the 35-decibel limit.

Yours etc,
JASON STACEY,
68 Bessborough Road,
Harrow, Middlesex.
August 1.

Maddened by bells

From Mr Richard Berkley-Matthews

Sir, Thanks in part to a donation from my cousin, the late Miss Eileen Heaven, the church bells of St Helena's, Lundy, have been rehung. On a recent visit to the island I was told by the acting agent that, such is the disruption caused to Lundy's usual peace and tranquillity, the now frequent parties of visiting bell-ringers have been restricted to four hours ringing a day, with no ringing on Fridays (letters, August 5, 7).

Even life in the Kingdom of Heaven (as the island was known during the ownership of the Heaven family) can be disturbed by the sound of church bells.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BERKLEY-MATTHEWS,
35 York Mansions,
Prince of Wales Drive, SW11.
August 7.

Trade descriptions

From Miss Joanna A. Migdal

Sir, Without a shadow of doubt, my trade puts all others in the shade (letters, July 22, 26; August 3, 10).

Yours faithfully,
J. A. MIGDAL (Sundial maker),
Lethendry,
Polecat Valley, Hindhead, Surrey.

Spread of BSE

From Mr David C. Taylor

Sir, The Assistant Chief Veterinary Officer is wrong to state that BSE cannot be transmitted through milk "because the calves of dairy cows do not drink their mothers' milk" (report, August 2). Calves *do* drink their mother's milk, at least for the first day or so, when they receive the protein-rich (prion-protein-rich?) colostrum — first milk — which is important for their survival and never sold as milk to the public.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID C. TAYLOR,
International Zoo Veterinary Group,
Keighley Business Centre,
South Street,
Keighley, West Yorkshire.
August 2.

From Professor S. H. U. Bowie, FRS

Sir, Michael Dynes ("EU 'mad cow' bill could exceed £1 billion", July 31) rightly refers to the need to restore confidence in Europe's beef and lamb markets. Attempts to do so should be based on the best possible scientific evidence and on accurate reporting by the media. For example, "possible" should not be changed to "probable", as has happened in the past.

There would not seem to be any evidence that under normal feeding conditions scrapie can be passed to cattle or other ruminants. It is even less likely that scrapie or BSE can cross the species boundary to humans. However, what is certain is that the strictest possible measures should be taken to prevent mammalian meat or bonemeal being fed to any herbivore.

It is well known that groups of people in this country and abroad consider that the brain and spinal cord of sheep are delicacies. It should be relatively easy to obtain evidence as to whether or not they suffer more from CJD than others who have never eaten such products.

Yours faithfully,
S. H. U. BOWIE,
Tanyard Farm,
Clapton, Crewkerne, Somerset.
August 1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Measuring the merits of metric

From Mr R. C. Amsden

Sir, Mr V. T. Linacre, Chairman of the British Weights and Measures Association (letter, August 5), may find metric units inelegant, but surely they are not an anachronism as are the imperial units.

He is quite right to deplore your occasional mixing of the two systems. However, now that the greater part of our population is fortunate enough to have been educated to use the *Système International* it is surely incumbent on you to use the modern metric units to the exclusion of units based on barleycorns and body measurements.

If any of your readers complain that they do not understand the metric units but claim to comprehend the imperial, then try challenging them to state the area of one chain by one furlong without looking it up. The hectare is 100 metres by 100 metres or one hundredth of a square kilometre.

The imperial system was partly based on the needs of agriculture. A furlong is the length of furrow which a horse can plough without a rest and a chain's width of such furrows is the area which the animal can work in one day. Very practical; however, the hectare is much better suited to the use of tractors.

Incidentally the Sudanese area unit, the *feddan*, is 1.038 acres.

Yours sincerely,
RON AMSDEN,
4 Shepherds' Hall,
Market Lane, Linton, Cambridge.
August 6.

From Mrs Sheila Lyddon

Sir, Mr Linacre reproaches you for confusing readers with an odd assortment of metric and imperial measures, but who is confused? Not me.

I went metric when my children were at school, so I had no difficulty on Saturday at the garden centre in selecting a 14in wire hanging basket and (same brand) a 35cm liner.

My metric-educated children, now adult, use whichever measure is appropriate, plus 28g of common sense. They generally prefer imperial.

Yours faithfully,
S. LYDDON,
6a Station Parade, Richmond, Surrey.
August 5.

From Mr R. J. Turner

Sir, V. T. Linacre suggests that you should use only imperial units. I would like to suggest that you use only SI units and exclude all others.

I have a grandson, now in his second year at university, who since he started at primary school has been taught nothing but metric units. He does not understand and is confused by imperial units. No wonder employers are critical of the standards of job-seekers.

We should have followed the example of the Australians and changed to the metric system in one fell swoop: even the elderly there quickly picked it up. My aged aunts happily think and talk in kilometres and grams.

V. T. Linacre reminds me of my dear old mother, who at the time of decimalisation of the currency said: "Why did they have to do it now? Why couldn't they wait until we old folks had died off?"

Yours faithfully,
R. TURNER,
92 Brook Lane,
Warsash, Southampton.
August 5.

A move for Sir Walter?

From Dr Brian Porter

Sir, The little, life-size statue of Sir Walter Raleigh on the Ministry of Defence green in Whitehall looks so incongruous among the much larger statues of the surrounding Second World War generals that it should surely be moved to a more suitable site.

No better one could be found than on the strip of lawn fronting the National Gallery, already graced by the life-size statues of George Washington and James II.

Not only is Trafalgar Square the right location for one of our maritime celebrities, but how fitting, if he were placed a little distance to the left of Washington, that Virginia's founder (and the fact should be added to the plinth) should stand alongside Virginia's greatest son.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN PORTER,
Rutherford College,
University Kent at Canterbury,
Canterbury, Kent.
August 9.

A little learning

From Mr Peter Burian

Sir, Whilst your columns are full of the headline achievements of American academia with the Martian discoveries and "intelligent" life speculations, you may be forgiven for overlooking our own Coventry University's contribution to revealing the mysteries of the Universe.

I have been invited to take part in a PhD study there into domestic work in London, encompassing cleaners, au pairs and mothers' helps.

The qualification "PhD Char" should open up undreamed-of opportunities.

Yours etc,
PETER BURIAN,
Hillview, Vale of Health, NW3.
August 8.

COURT CIRCULAR

HM YACHT BRITANNIA
August 12: The Queen disembarked from *HMY Britannia* this morning at Stranraer and was received at Cairnryan Ferry Terminal by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Wigtown (Major Edward Orr Ewing), Mr George Kynoch MP (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Scotland) and the Managing Director, P & O Ferries (Mr John Palmer).

Her Majesty drove to Stranraer Academy and was received by the Rector (Mr Michael Davies) and the Chairman of Governors (Mrs Rosemary Mann).

The Queen saw the redevelopment work in progress, met pupils and staff and opened the new Games Hall.

Her Majesty afterwards visited Agnew Park and was received by the Chairman of the Community Resources Committee, Dumfries and Galloway Council (Mr William Service) and the Chairman of Wigtown West Area Committee (Mr Brian Park).

The Queen viewed the Princess Victoria Memorial and inspected members of the Sea Scouts, the Army Cadets and the Royal British Legion, before officially naming the Park.

Her Majesty later visited Dalrymple Hospital and was received by the Chairman of Dumfries and Galloway Community Health NHS Trust (Miss Elizabeth Edwards).

The Queen afterwards opened the new St John Unit, which will provide hospice care for the community, and was received by Colonel James Stirling of Garden (Prior of Scotland, Order of St John).

Her Majesty subsequently visited the new Rhinsdale House Day Centre, was received by the Chairman of the Social Services Committee, Dumfries and Galloway Council (Mrs Elizabeth Gordon) and met staff and residents.

The Queen later arrived at John Niven Campus, Dumfries and Galloway College, and was received by the Principal of the College (Mr James Neil) and the Head of John Niven Campus (Mrs Victoria Quinn).

Her Majesty subsequently honoured Mr Allan Baldwick (Convener, Dumfries and Galloway Council) with her presence at Luncheon.

The Queen this afternoon returned to the Royal Yacht.

Nature notes

The pied flycatcher

MORE birds are moving south. Common and arctic terns are appearing over rivers and reservoirs: the arctic terns will keep going until they reach the Antarctic in a month or two. Migrating pied flycatchers can turn up in any stretch of woodland: they fly nimbly out from a branch to pick up passing insects. Late broods of goldfinches are leaving the nest: the young birds sit in a line waiting for their parents to bring food. They are sometimes called "grey-pates" because they have not yet acquired the red, black and white faces of the adults.

The pink flowers of spotted persicaria, or redlegs, are common in the ditches: the leaves bear a dark mark, like a print left by a bleeding thumb. In waste places, small bindweed flowers sometimes cover the ground like a sea of white trumpets. Conkers are swelling on the horse-chestnuts, and drumstick-like seeds are forming on the limes. Silver Y moths have been very common this year: they have a curving Y-shaped mark on their front wings. In London, they fly out from window boxes when the flowers are watered in the morning. DJM

Birthdays today

Mr Roger Abel, chairman, Conoco Exploration Production, Europe, 53; Miss Elizabeth Appleby, QC, 54; Mr Kenneth Collins, MEP, 57; Lord Colnbrook, 74; Vice-Admiral Sir Kenneth Eaton, 62; Air Marshal Sir Maurice Heath, 87; General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson, 75; Sir Anthony Jolliffe, former Lord Mayor of London, 58; Dr Tommy Kemp, physician and rugby player, 81; Professor David King, Master, Downing College, Cambridge, 57; Mr Mark Knopfler, singer, songwriter and guitarist, 47; Mr Norris McWhirter, founder Editor, *Guinness Book of Records*, 71; Mr Floris Maljers, KBE, former joint chairman, Unilever NV, 63; Sir Robin Nicholson, metallurgist, 62; Lord Renton, QC, 88; Mr Pete Sampras, tennis player, 25; Mr Jonathan Taylor, chairman, Booker, 61; Mr Peter West, sports commentator, 76; Professor Graham Zellick, Principal, Queen Mary and Westfield College, 48.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Bewick, engraver, Newcastle, 1753; King George IV, reigned 1820-30, London, 1762; Robert Southey, Poet Laureate 1813-43, Bristol, 1774; Sir Joseph Barnby, composer, York, 1838; Jacinto Benavente, dramatist and poet, Madrid, 1866; Cecil B. de Mille, film producer, Ashfield, Massachusetts, 1881; Erwin Schrodinger, physicist, Nobel laureate 1933, Vienna, 1887; Dr C.E.M. Joad, civil servant, author and controversialist, Durham, 1891.

DEATHS: Nahum Tate, Poet Laureate 1692-1715, London, 1715; Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, statesman, committed suicide, North Gray Place, Kent, 1822; William Blake, poet and artist, London, 1827; George Stephenson, builder of *The Rocket*, Tapton, Derbyshire, 1848; Sir William Jackson Hooker, first director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 1841-65, London, 1865; James Lowell, poet and diplomat, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1891; Adolf Erik Nordenskjöld, Arctic explorer, Dalbyö, Sweden, 1901; John Philip Holland, submarine pioneer, Newark, New Jersey, 1914; Arthur Griffith, Irish statesman, Dublin, 1922; Leoš Janáček, composer, Ostrava, Czechoslovakia, 1928; Thomas Mann, novelist, Nobel laureate 1929, Zurich, 1955; Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond, Canterbury, 1964; Professor Sir Ernst Chain, biochemist, Nobel laureate 1945, Ireland, 1979; Henry Fonda, actor, Los Angeles, 1982.

Thomas Alva Edison made the first sound recording onto a foil-wrapped cylinder on the *Edisonphone*, 1887.

The first Model T Ford was produced, 1908.

Echo I, the first US communications satellite, was launched from Cape Canaveral, 1960.

Stage is cleared for Globe players

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

THE Globe Theatre, the reconstructed Shakespearean theatre on the South Bank of the Thames, is nearing completion as actors rehearse and scholars and scenic artists put the finishing touches to the stage, which — as in the 16th century — will remain unchanged for every production.

Time is getting short as dress rehearsals for *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* begin next week, when any extra painting will have to be done by night.

Jenny Tiramani, supervising the design for the stage, is co-ordinating research by Jon Greenfield, of Pentagram Design, and Peter Davidson, from the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance at Warwick University, among others.

The Globe opens officially next year but a production of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* will run from August 21 to September 15 directed by Jack Shepherd, the actor and playwright. He spoke of how the Globe's unchanging stage will transform the art of theatre. There is no scenery and no lighting, as performances are by day: "It will always have the same background. We have to suggest different places." Recreating the Elizabethan way reflects a move away from "concept theatre" of recent years, he said. "This will be an exercise in the imagination, not stage design."

Dr Davidson said of the theatre: "We know the shape, because of Wenceslaus Hollar's engraving. We know that there were stars and the moon on the ceiling above the stage and that the sign of the theatre was Hercules bearing the celestial globe. We know that the stage area was brightly coloured. That is about it."

ANDRE CAMARA

Work goes on around Jenny Tiramani, who is supervising the design for the Globe's stage

Enchantment at the pinnacle of piping

By Angus Nicol

THE Silver Chanter piobaireachd recital, held on Skye last week, remains a pinnacle of two days of music, a recital by the best pipers in the world. At the end of the recital, almost as an afterthought, the Silver Chanter is presented to one of the five invited performers.

William MacCallum, who began the recital with a meticulous performance of the *Lament for the Earl of Antrim*, was the winner for the third year in succession. This powerful lament is a MacCrimmon tune by attribution and commemorates the death of the Earl of Antrim, a MacDonald, who lent support to the king in the Civil War.

The thirtieth Silver Chanter piobaireachd recital took place, as always, in what was the Great Hall of Dunvegan Castle, the very room in which many of the MacCrimmon tunes were first heard.

The recital was founded by Seumas MacNeill and John MacFadyen with Dame Flora, 28th MacLeod of MacLeod, in 1967, for the purpose of attracting the leading pipers of the day to the competitions in Skye.

In this it succeeded admirably and the Skye Games, in Portree, now include a large and high level piping competition. Sadly, this year saw the death of Seumas MacNeill, the last survivor of the founders. The Fear an Tighe, Norman MacLeod of Suardail, paid a warm tribute to MacNeill's inestimable contribution.

Colin MacLellan, winner of the Silver Chanter in 1990 and 1991, gave a fine performance of *Maol Donn*, also known as *MacCrimmon's Sweetheart*, the origins of which are obscure. He was followed by Dr Angus MacDonald, who played superbly the *Lament for MacSwan of Roaig*, the tune with which he won the Gold Medal at Oban.

The *Lament for Patrick Og MacCrimmon* was composed by Iain Dall Mackay on hearing the erroneous report of the death of his old master, to whom he later played this great lament. Angus MacColl gave it a spirited performance. The last to play was Roderick MacLeod, who won the Silver Chanter in 1989 with Angus MacKay's setting of Domhnull Ruadh MacCrimmon's *Mrs MacLeod of Talisker's Salute*. He again gave an excellent rendition.

While the adjudicator, John MacDougall, himself the winner of the Silver Chanter in 1980, deliberated, this year's guest piper, Kenneth MacLean, played the *Lament for Mary MacLeod*.

The Silver Chanter recital is organised each year by the John MacFadyen Memorial Trust, and has been sponsored for some years by Safeway Plc. Sir Alistair Grant, retiring chairman of the Argyll group, was Fear Cathrach for this thirtieth recital. Norman MacLeod of Suardail expressed the gratitude of all present for his and Safeway's support.

Lady Grant made the presentation to William MacCallum.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.J. Chiswell and Miss C.A. Stroebel
The engagement is announced between Richard John, son of Dr and Mrs John Chiswell, of Borough Green, Kent, and Claire Angela, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kurt Stroebel, of Hockley, Essex.

Mr W.M. Heneker and Miss S. Phillips
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Heneker, of Reigate, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Albert Phillips, of Penoed, Glamorgan.

Mr P.G.D. Robertson and Miss T.H. Coote
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs Gillespie Robertson, of London, and Tabitha, daughter of Mr Richard Coote and Mrs Belinda Coote, also of London.

Mr A.D. Simpson-Orlebar and Miss J.C. Dopheide
The engagement is announced between Aubrey, elder son of Sir Michael and Lady Simpson-Orlebar, of Needham Market, Suffolk, and Julia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Dieter Dopheide, of Vienna, Austria.

Mr M.J. Wootliff and Miss T. Viscovitch
The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Stanley Wootliff, of Leeds, Yorkshire, and Tanya, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Doro Viscovitch, of York, Yorkshire.

Service dinner

Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force
Mr James Crowden, Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, was principal guest at the annual dinner of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force at Deverell Barracks, Ripon. Colonel D.H. Bristow and the officers of the force were the hosts. Captain Jean Nelson presided.

Marriages

Mr F.A. Mosier and Miss S.P. Wellesley
The marriage took place on Saturday in the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, Palace of Westminster, of Mr Frank Mosier, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frank Mosier, of Saratoga, New York, to Miss Sarah Paige Wellesley, younger daughter of Earl and Countess Cowley, of Castletown, Isle of Man. Canon Donald Gray, Chaplain to the Speaker, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by the Hon Henry Wellesley, the Hon Natasha Wellesley, Miss Olivia Galsworthy and Miss Johnna Wellesley. Mr Alexander Williams was best man.

A reception was held at the Oriental Club and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr K.P. Lloyd and Miss L.M.C. Kirwan-Taylor
A service of blessing was held on Saturday at St Mark's, Regent's Park, NW1, after the marriage at Marylebone Register Office of Mr Keith Lloyd, son of the late Mr Peter Lloyd and of Mrs Lloyd, of Torquay, Devon, to Miss Laura Kirwan-Taylor, daughter of Mr Peter Kirwan-Taylor, of Bridgehampton, New York, and of Viscountess Lymington, of Westminster. The Rev T.P.N. Devonshire Jones officiated.

Mr E.W. Howells and Miss P.M. Hopkins
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Cambridge, of Mr Edward Howells, younger son of the late Mr Christopher Howells and of Lady Graham, of Shipton-under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire, to Miss Philippa Hopkins, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hopkins, of Cambridge. Canon B.N. Jones and the Rev F. Gelli officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Gabriella Dryden, Thomas Dryden and Miss Helen Lawler. Dr David Verity was best man. A reception was held at Downing College and the honeymoon will be spent in Northern Spain.

Mr N.D. Coleman and Miss K. Sims-Eakins
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 10, at Westminster Register Office, of Mr Nevil Coleman and Miss Karmel Sims-Eakins.

The reception was held at the Jack Straws Castle, Hampstead, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr D. Pierce Jones and Miss H. Taylor
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 10, 1996, at St Giles' Church, Ickenham, between Mr David Pierce Jones and Miss Helen Taylor.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Michelle Wragge Morley. Mr Robert Heathcote was best man.

The reception was held at Pinewood House, Iver.

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Cease to do evil, learn to do good. Pursue justice, guide the oppressed; uphold the rights of the fatherless and plead the widow's cause. Isaiah 1 : 16 (REB)

BIRTHS

MOIR - On August 8th, to Kate (née Henenge) and Malcolm, a daughter, Matilda.

SANDS - On 1st August 1996, to Carol (née Boddie) and Martin, a daughter, Emma Charlotte.

SLATER - On 5th August, to Alison (née McLean) and Ian, a daughter, Alexandra Rebecca Kirstin, a sister for Charlie and Lucy.

WHITEHEAD - On 9 August 1996, in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA, to Cathy and Richard, a son, Timothy William. A brother for Hillary.

DEATHS

AMARATUNGA - Chanaka. Dearly loved son of Swarna Amaratunga, died 1st August 1996 aged 40 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Dr Amaratunga became leader of the Liberal Party of Sri Lanka, after graduating from University College Oxford and obtaining a Doctorate from the London School of Economics. Letters to Mrs S. Amaratunga, 88/1 Rosmeade Place, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka.

BLEEKER - On August 7th 1996 peacefully at home Kevin Karl aged 38, dearest husband of Marguerita and father to Honor and imminently expected baby. A private funeral was held on 10th August. A Memorial Service will be held at St Mary the Virgin Church, Tetbury, on Saturday October 12th at 11.30 am. No flowers please but donations if desired to Frenchay Hospital Trust (Magic Wand Appeal) c/o Mr D Sandeman, Dept. of Neurosurgery, Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, BS16 1LE.

CADMAN (MANDER) - On 8th August 1996, in Berkeley, Mary-Jane, mother of Tanith and Simon. Funeral service at St John's Church, Purton, on Thursday August 15th, at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Cancer Research.

CRADOCK-HARTOPP - On August 7th, at home after a short illness, Sir John Edmund Cradock-Hartopp Bt, aged 84, much loved husband of Prudence and dear father of Melinda, Nicola and Joanna. Service of Thanksgiving at Christ Church, Copse Hill, Wimbledon, on Friday, 16th August at 3 pm preceded by private family cremation.

HARTOPP - See Cradock-Hartopp.

KENNEDY - David Charles, peacefully in hospital on August 9th aged 79 years. Much loved father of Nicolas and Paul, grandfather and great grandfather. Service at Wotton-under-Edge Parish Church, Glos on Thursday August 15th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired may be sent for the British Heart Foundation c/o Grimes and Goscombe Funeral Services, Chipping Manor, The Chipping, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos.

DEATHS

SCOTT - Suddenly at Beadnell, Northumberland, on August 7th aged 43 years, John Preston Rutherford Scott (Criminal Solicitor, West London). Dearest son of Archie and Honor, dearly loved by Marilyn, adored father of Edward and much loved brother of Susan and Christine. Funeral Service at St Ebba's Church, Beadnell, on Wednesday 14th August at 2.30 pm, followed by private interment. Family flowers only but donations in lieu to Breathe North Appeal c/o The Green, Wallsend, NE28 7PB.

SHAW-MACKENZIE - Peacefully on 9th August, Gina aged 91, after years of disability and pain patiently borne. Funeral on Thursday 15th August 2 pm at Church of the Ascension, Beaufort Road, Ealing W5, followed by cremation at Breakspear. No flowers by request but donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation. All enquiries to W.S. Bond, 19 Bond Street, Ealing W5 5AP. Tel: (0181) 567 0422.

SHIRREFF - Ruth Emily (née Savory) on 9th August at Princess Margaret Hospital Swindon. Deputy Head of Ridgeway School, Wroughton 1967/83. Dear wife of Donald and mother of John, David and Jane (Walker). No flowers please. Donations if desired to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Funeral at the Crematorium, South Marston at a date to be later determined. Enquiries to Co-operative Funeral Directors, Swindon. Tel: 01793 491091

BIRTHDAYS

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LEGAL NOTICES

C.H. DUXBURY (HAULAGE) LTD
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Thursday 15th August 1996 at 12.00 Noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr Stephen Lord of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 7TH DAY OF AUGUST 1996
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
T. A. DUXBURY, DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR
Name of company: Datix International Limited
Nature of business: Typesetters
Address of registered office: Compass House, 80 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DZ
Liquidators name and address: Helen MacNaughton & Christopher John Wilkinson Hill, Ernst & Young, Compass House, 80 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DZ
Date of appointment: 26 July 1996
By whom appointed: Members and ratified by Creditors on 6 August 1996
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Datix International Limited - In Receivership and In Liquidation
The creditors of the above-named company are requested, on or before 30 September 1996 to send their names, addresses and particulars of their claims to the undersigned, the joint liquidator of the company, at Ernst & Young, Compass House, 80 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DZ.
Dated: 6 August 1996
Christopher John Wilkinson Hill
Joint Liquidator

1996 R 372
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
BETWEEN
(1) ROBERT ALAN HESLETT
(2) MARTIN ROGER PARR
Plaintiffs
and
MR CHUNG WAI-MAN
First Defendant
and
ABBEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY Second Defendant
NOTICE
TO: Mr Chung Wai-Man of 106 Sibthorpe Road, London
TAKE NOTICE that the High Court of Justice Chancery Division, The Courthouse, 1 Oxford Row, Leeds, LS1 3BG will be moved on Wednesday 18 September 1996 at 10.30am or as soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard, by Counsel for the above named Plaintiffs, for an Order that:
1. The First Defendant pay the Plaintiffs the sum of £89,379.90
2. The First Defendant pay interest pursuant to the Contract as pleaded.
3. Alternatively the First Defendant pay interest pursuant to statute.
4. A declaration that the Plaintiffs were entitled to trace the sum of £62,700 advanced to the First Defendant by the Second Defendant on or about 12 July 1991 together with all interest accrued thereupon into the property known as 106 Sibthorpe Road, London, SE12.
5. A declaration that in the circumstances the First Defendant holds the legal title to the said property as an implied or constructive Trustee for the Plaintiffs such extent as may be necessary to satisfy declaration (4) above.
6. The First Defendant as such Trustee as aforesaid do sell the property and do out of the net proceeds thereof pay the Plaintiffs as may be found due to them herein or such other sums as the Court may think fit.
7. Alternatively, the Plaintiffs be appointed as Trustees of the said property in substitution of the First Defendant, title to the property to be invested in the Plaintiffs as such Trustees for all the estate and interest of the First Defendant.
8. Alternatively, a declaration that the Plaintiffs are entitled by way of subrogation to the benefits of the legal charge of the said property created by the date of 17 of February 1987 made between (1) Peter Oliver Loxley and Madame Loxley and (2) First National Bank Plc.
9. Such further or other relief as the Court may think just and expedient in the circumstances.
10. The costs of this motion be paid by the Defendants to the Plaintiffs.
AND THAT it has been ordered that service on you of this Notice of Motion be effected by the advertisement.
Dated the 12th day of August 1996
Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave, 7 Park Square East, Leeds LS1 2LW
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs.

LEGAL NOTICES

Company Number: 2802777
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AROSA SIGNS LIMITED
Registered Office
Arosa House
Savernake Street
Swindon
SN1 3LZ
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at the Regal Hotel, Oxford Road, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, SN3 4TL on 16 August 1996 at 10.30 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Grant Thornton, 1 Westminster Way, Oxford, OX2 0PZ on 14 and 15 August 1996 between the hours of 10.00am and 4.00pm.
DATED THIS 31 DAY OF JULY 1996
Susan Campbell
Director

CH 96 P 371
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
BETWEEN
(1) MARTIN ROGER PARR
(2) ROBERT ALAN HESLETT
Plaintiffs
and
PERCY AMIHERE First Defendant
GEORGINA OWUSU ANSAH Second Defendant
NATIONWIDE BUILDING SOCIETY Third Defendant
NOTICE
TO: Georgina Owusu Ansah
TAKE NOTICE that the High Court of Justice Chancery Division, The Courthouse, 1 Oxford Row, Leeds, LS1 3BG will be moved on Wednesday 18 September 1996 at 10.30am or so soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard, by Counsel for the above named Plaintiffs, for an Order that:
1. A declaration that the Plaintiffs are entitled to an equitable charge over Flat 2, 75 Flaxman Road, London for the sum of £53,000 and equitable interest thereon.
2. An Order that the equitable Charge may be enforced by sale of the property.
3. Such further or other relief as may be requisite.
4. That costs of this Motion be paid by the Defendants to the Plaintiffs.
AND THAT it has been Ordered that service on you of the Notice of Motion be effected by this advertisement.
Dated this 12th day of August 1996
Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave
7 Park Square East, Leeds, LS1 2LW
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs

THE PARKFIELD GROUP PENSION PLAN
THE PARKFIELD GROUP PLC MANAGEMENT PENSION PLAN AND
THE PARKFIELD GROUP PLC EXECUTIVE PENSION PLAN
THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN PURSUANT TO SECTION 27 OF THE TRUSTEE ACT 1925
Notice is hereby given that any persons having a claim or interest in the Parkfield Group Pension Plan, the Parkfield Group plc Management Pension Plan or the Parkfield Group plc Executive Pension Plan ("the Plans") are required to send particulars in writing by registered post of such claim or interest to the trustees of the Plans c/o Jardine Reeves Brown Limited, St James's House, 7 Charlotte Street, Manchester, M1 4DZ within two months of the date below.
After this date the trustees of the Plans will distribute the remaining assets of the Plans in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deeds and Rules of the Plans among the members and any other persons entitled to benefit having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice and will not in respect of the property so distributed be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not have had notice.
Any person who has already been notified of having an entitlement under the Plans or who has made a claim and received a response need not re-apply to the trustees.
Dated this 12th day of August 1996

LEGAL NOTICES

The Insolvency Act 1986
BATCHDELUXE LIMITED
T/A TRIOPRESS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 22nd August 1996 at 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
Dated this 29th day of July 1996
By Order of the Board
L.J. BRITCHFORD, Director

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF SOLE LIQUIDATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO CLAIM
PONTIS TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
Principal Trading Address: 40 Oxford Road, High Wycombe, HP11 2EE
Company Number 1993446
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 29 July 1996 I K D Smith was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference: PXP/PXB/KJC
Deloitte & Touche
PO Box 810
Hill House
1 Little New street
London EC4A 3TR

TRUSTEE ACTS

BERKLEY, BETTY of 48 Tradescant House, Frampton Park Road, London E9 died on 12th March 1996 particulars to Dowse & Co solicitors of 229/235 Camden High Street, London NW1 7BU before 11th October 1996.

TRUSTEE ACTS

FIELD, PHILIP ALEXANDER GORDON (SANDY) of PO Box 169, Nanyuki, Kenya died on 14th June 1996 particulars to Dawson & Co Solicitors of 2 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RZ (Ref: EM/EAC/1647) before 11th October 1996.

HAGERTY, PATRICK JOHN of 74 Lamberhurst Road, London SE27 died on 20th March 1989 particulars to Amphlett Lissimore Solicitors of 29 Westow Street, London SE19 3RW before 11th October 1996.

MAHONEY, REGINALD ROBERT of 5 Loanda Close, London E8 died on 28th December 1995 particulars to Dowse & Co Solicitors of 229/235 Camden High Street, London NW1 7BU before 11th October 1996.

MCCORMICK HUGH Flat 4, Swinton Court, Swinton, Manchester died 7th November 1996; particulars to Executor C. Parkinson 51 Douglas Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2SR before 9th October 1996.

PAYNE, SUZANNAH MARIA of 41 Transport Squadron Royal Logistics Corps Worthy Down Winchester died on 29th October 1995; particulars to Howard & Over Solicitors of 229 Albert Road, Devonport, Plymouth PL2 1AH before 11th October 1996

RIDER Brian Harold of Croydon, Surrey died on 14th June 1996. Particulars of any claims are to be made to Rawlance & Hart, Solicitors of 53 Chatsworth Road, Croydon CR9 1LE, reference: MDH, before 18th October, 1996.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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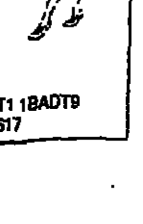

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OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR SIR NEVILL MOTT

Sir Nevill Mott, CH, FRS, winner of the 1977 Nobel Prize for Physics and Cavendish Professor of Physics, Cambridge University, 1954-71, died on August 8 aged 90. He was born on September 30, 1905.

One of the most distinguished theoretical physicists of this century, Nevill Mott won his Nobel Prize, which he shared with the Americans Philip Anderson and John van Beck, not for that "one startling discovery" for which the Nobel Prize is often associated in the public mind. His field of research was not one of the more outwardly glamorous ones, such as astronomy or particle physics. Yet his specialisation — solid state physics — was to find itself at the heart of the contemporary electronics revolution, and was to affect ordinary lives in a manner which the discovery of a new heavenly body, or even the detonation of a nuclear weapon, did not.

His work, and that of Anderson and van Beck, showed that certain cheap, glassy semiconductor materials had special electrical characteristics. He demonstrated that these could be used to improve the performance of circuits in computers, to increase enormously the memory of such systems, and to produce more efficient photovoltaic cells to convert solar energy into electricity. Such discoveries paved the way for a variety of now indispensable tools for the individual, ranging from the wafer-thin, battery-less pocket calculator to the PC and the desktop publisher.

Yet when in the 1960s Mott started his work on amorphous materials like glass, which lack the orderly structure of crystalline substances such as metals and are therefore more difficult to understand, many of his contemporaries looked askance at his efforts. It was only when he produced a theory to show that such amorphous materials could function as semiconductors that the barriers of scepticism began breaking down.

In the event he was able to demonstrate that because glassy substances were easier to prepare, and did not need to be anything like as pure as the crystalline materials used in most electronic systems to that date, their use could usher in the age of the truly cheap electronic device. Although unspectacular when described in purely scientific terms, these discoveries quite simply ended the notion of the computer as the preserve of aerospace and defence agencies, big industries and scientific research institutes, and added it to the list of household utensils.

Surprisingly for one who had been a shy and retiring boy, Mott was, in addition to this immense burden of research work, to become in his day one of the most influential figures at Cambridge University through his 17-year tenureship of the Cavendish professorship and his Mastership of Gonville and Caius College from 1959 to 1966. As — in addition to these two influential posts — an active member of the university's General Board and of the Council of the Senate, he played a leading part in formulating university policy, especially where science was concerned. Indeed, in matters of science education — particularly proposed changes in school syllabuses which cropped up from time to time — his voice, whether as a university spokesman or as chairman of the Royal Society committee on education which he chaired in the 1960s, was listened to far outside Cambridge.

Administrative activities had not, at first, come easily to him. His first love, and the centre of his being, was his research (and he had all the endearing hallmarks of the "absent-minded professor"). But through his own action in seizing opportunities and his self-discipline in adapting himself to their challenge, he gained the necessary assurance as time progressed.

Nevill Francis Mott was the son of C. F. Mott, a former Director of Education for Liverpool, and his talented wife Lilian. His mother and father had been research students together under J. J. Thomson at the Cavendish Laboratory, where their photographs may be seen displayed in the "Research Group" for 1902, when his mother was still "Miss Reynolds". Nevill was at school at Clifton College and went from there to St John's College, Cambridge, with an open scholarship.

He was classed Wrangler with Distinction in Part II of the Mathematical Tripos in 1926, and after three years' research in applied mathematics he was appointed to a lectureship at Manchester University in 1929. He returned to Cambridge as a Fellow and lecturer of Caius College in 1930 and in 1933 went to Bristol as Melville Wills Professor in Theoretical Physics. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1936 at the young age of 31. In 1948 he became Henry Overton Wills Professor of Physics and Director of the Henry Herbert Wills Physical Laboratory at Bristol.

In 1954 he returned to Cambridge to the Cavendish Chair of Experimental Physics, and in 1959 he was elected in addition to the Mastership of Caius College. In the meantime his mathematical genius had been turned to good account in the early years of the nuclear programme at the UK Atomic Energy Establishment at Harwell. By this stage his absent-mindedness had become legendary. It was said that when colleagues returned him to Didcot station from Harwell after a meeting there in 1954, he mistakenly took the train to Bristol, forgetting that he had just taken up the chair at Cambridge.

Mott's research career started at a time when the ideas of wave-mechanics were

being put on a firm basis, and he quickly established a reputation by his application of the new ideas to collisions of atomic particles. In an important paper he showed how the Rutherford law of alpha particle scattering could be deduced from wave-mechanical principles, and he extended it to include the effects of symmetry in scattering phenomena.

But when he went to Bristol as a professor at the age of 27 he abandoned the subject of collisions for that of metals and alloys, and within a few years he had an international reputation in that field also. Later he turned to consider semiconductors and insulators, and to problems concerned with the formation of a latent image in a photographic emulsion. During Mott's 21 years at Bristol his group occupied a position of particular eminence in theoretical physics.

During the war he first worked on problems concerned with the propagation of radio waves. Later, as Superintendent of Theoretical Research in Armaments, he made outstanding contributions to the theory of the explosive fragmentation of shell and bomb cases.

Although Mott's researches were of a purely mathematical nature, he showed particular aptitude for discussing them in physical terms, and in relation to practical experiments. It was largely this facility which made him so successful as research director of the H. H. Wills laboratory at Bristol, where he showed unexpected ability for directing the experimental work in detail. His ability to explain mathematics in physical terms was responsible for the immediate success of his book *An Outline of Wave Mechanics* (1930) and its successor *Elements of Wave Mechanics* (1952), each of which, in its own time, had a profound influence on the teaching of wave mechanics in English universities.

Other books, such as *The Theory of Atomic Collisions* (with H. S. W. Massey, 1933) and *The Theory of the Properties of Metals and Alloys* (with H. Jones, 1936), were of equal importance for more advanced students. *Metal-Insulator Transitions* (1970, 2nd ed. 1990) crowned a long period of concern with a central problem in the physics of solids which is universally known as the Mott Transition.

By the time Mott was appointed Cavendish Professor at Cambridge his interests had widened to include administration, and from the first he showed himself courageous in making far-reaching decisions and executing them with speed and ruthlessness. There was naturally at that time in the Cavendish Laboratory, where Rutherford had worked, a strong tradition of nuclear physics. Mott found that a large and costly "linear accelerator" was under construction. He saw at once the critical problems for the university which a large machine of this kind would present; although he was not due to go into residence at Cambridge until a year had elapsed, he lost little time in closing the project down.

This action determined, to a considerable extent, the future trend of the work at the Cavendish. It meant that nuclear physics could not much longer remain the central interest, and that the "Rutherford tradition" must soon cease.

Mott was equally clear in his ideas on teaching. On arriving at Cambridge he found that most physicists had to take the Natural Sciences Tripos under involved and complicated regulations, framed so that all the sciences were included. He at once decided to alter its structure to make it more suitable for specialist physicists (and chemists), and such was his energy and persuasiveness that he achieved his aim in less than three years.

Research in solid state physics became a major activity of the laboratory and included the development of electron-microscopy and its use in the investigation of the properties of metals. He also encouraged the expansion of work in radio astronomy.

At the same time, preparations for the rebuilding of the Cavendish Laboratory on a site in west Cambridge — a first priority of the Deer report on the long-term needs of scientific departments — absorbed his time and effort increasingly from the mid-1960s, at a difficult period when retrenchment rather than expansion was the national policy.

Mott's Mastership of Caius was notable for his insistence on the importance of bringing the college into accord with the changing external conditions, especially through its admissions policy, and also of taking its full share of any university affairs. He supported the college's liberal use of its funds for purposes such as the election of considerable numbers of able young research fellows and, in particular, for its share in the founding of the new Darwin College. But he resigned the Mastership in 1966, feeling that continued conflict of opinion about many issues with a majority of the fellows made the position a frustrating one. In particular, his forward-looking proposal for a professionally trained bursar had been turned down by them.

After his retirement from the Cavendish chair, Mott returned to research with a vigour that would have been impressive in a much younger man. He worked not only with the research groups in the Cavendish Laboratory but with workers in industrial research laboratories in the UK and in France, and, as a senior research fellow, 1971-73, with the solid state physicists at Imperial College, London.

The work which was to win him the Nobel Prize in 1977 had in fact been begun, in conjunction with Anderson, at Cambridge in the 1960s. The two men's research sparked off a number of similar experiments: at Dundee; in Marburg, Germany, where the work was financed by Volkswagen; and in a number of places in the US, notably at Bell Telephone. His Nobel Prize, awarded at the relatively late age (for a mathematician) of 72, was a summation of these years of research which had to be quarried out of the time he had been compelled to devote to administration.

Outside Cambridge Mott held important offices in physics, which ranged from his presidency of the International Union of Physics through his membership of the Crowther committee on education to his work as adviser on the planning of higher education in African countries, in Israel and in Greece, to the part he played in the "Pugwash" conference on the application of science for peaceful ends.

He was knighted in 1962, and he received well over a score of honorary degrees from institutions in Britain, Europe, Israel and America. His appointment as a Companion of Honour last year was a somewhat belated, but richly merited, acknowledgement of his great achievements.

He is survived by his wife Ruth, and by one of their two daughters.

RAFAEL KUBELIK

Rafael Kubelik, Czech-born, Swiss-naturalised conductor and composer, died yesterday in Lucerne aged 82. He was born on June 29, 1914.

NOT a man who was prepared to compromise, especially on matters such as rehearsal time, Rafael Kubelik was a musician from whom controversy was never very far in his earlier days, whether during his spell with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, 1950-53, or at Covent Garden where he was artistic director, 1955-58. He was not a man to whom the give and take which generally has to be part of operatic life came easily. Nor, to his credit, was he prepared to conduct in countries whose autocratic regimes he found repugnant. He had, after all, had to leave Czechoslovakia after the Communist takeover in 1948.

But his later experiences were happier ones. From 1961 he had a fruitful association with Munich as chief conductor of Bayerischer Rundfunk and he stayed there until ill-health — acute arthritis — forced him to give up conducting in 1979. He broke off a performance of Mahler's Ninth Symphony in Munich because he could no longer stand the pain and he seldom appeared before an orchestra thereafter.

His 75th birthday in 1989 was, though, celebrated with much acclaim in Bavaria, including performances of several of his own works. His period in Munich had been notable for the recording of all Mahler's symphonies and for recordings of works by Janacek and Schoenberg.

Rafael Jeronym Kubelik was born on his father's estate near Kolin to the east of Prague. His family was musical, his father being the legendary Czech violinist Jan Kubelik, whom the young Rafael was later to accompany on the piano. His mother was a Hungarian countess of broad culture.

Kubelik studied at the Prague Conservatoire and demonstrated just how versatile he was by conducting, playing the violin and offering one of his own compositions for the final examination. In 1934 he conducted the Czech Philharmonic for the first time, five months before his 20th birthday. Appointed conductor of the orchestra in 1936, he took it on tours throughout Czechoslovakia and abroad, in particular to Britain.

Before the war he also conducted at the Brno Opera, which was famous for its championship of Janacek, and from 1942 to 1948 he was music director of the Czech Philharmonic. After the war he helped to found the Prague Spring Festival, but he left the country after the Communist takeover in 1948.

Some of his first engagements in the West were provided by the BBC, for whom Kubelik conducted a number of operas. He also conducted *Don Giovanni* for the Glyndebourne Opera during its appearance at the Edinburgh Festival in 1948.

However, his reputation was established mainly in the concert hall and this led to his appointment as principal conductor of the Chicago Symphony in 1950. The Chicago years were stormy. Kubelik insisted both on lengthy rehearsal periods and in scheduling a large number of contemporary works. He was criticised for a narrow repertoire, although he did premiere Roy Harris's Symphony No 7 in 1952 and Bloch's *Suite Hébraïque* in 1953. But he made enemies in the city and resigned after three years.

The choice of Kubelik as artistic director of Covent Garden came as a total surprise to musical London. He had conducted a highly successful *Katya Kabanova* at Sadler's Wells but otherwise was scarcely known as an opera conductor in Britain. Before taking over the job he made his debut at the house with a new production of *The Bartered Bride*, an obvious gesture of loyalty to his native land. The soprano lead of Majenka was sung by Elsie Morison, whom he was later to marry.

Kubelik at once announced a policy at Covent Garden of opera in English, sung whenever possible by a resident company which he was trying to build up. It was a controversial move, made the more so by the fact that some of his selected performers were not of a standard to have made it in an international house. The experiment might have had its attractions elswhere, but Covent Garden was hardly the place for it.

There were public rows, one with Tito Gobbi whom Kubelik fired for turning up late for rehearsals. There was another, in print, with Beecham, who thoroughly disapproved of the Kubelik approach. The compensations were Kubelik's own performances — *Otello*, *The Trojans* and *Jenufa*. But these were not great years at Covent Garden and when Kubelik left in 1958 his policy of English-language performance was revoked.

Thereafter he conducted a number of world orchestras, among them the Vienna Philharmonic and the Israel Philharmonic, maintaining his momentum on the international scene. Soon he was dividing much of his life between Munich and Lucerne. Made chief conductor of Bayerischer Rundfunk in 1961, he led the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra on many tours abroad until his retirement in 1979. It was the natural place to express his lifelong feeling for Mahler and, to a lesser extent, Bruckner.

Latterly he had a home in Lucerne — he had taken out Swiss citizenship in 1967 — and was artistic adviser to the festival there, which in 1988 gave the premiere of one of his last compositions, *Invocation*. In London he was heard regularly with the LSO. In 1973 there was a brief flirtation with the Met in New York before James Levine took over. But by then Kubelik had probably realised that the international opera circuit was not for him.

He made a number of records, mainly with the Bavarian Radio, which included two Weber operas (*Oberon* and *Freischütz*) as well as his beloved Mahler. He had no outward resentment of the disease which brought an end to his career at an age when many conductors feel there is a good decade to go and told one inverviewer that "pain can act as a positive spiritual force".

To prove it he went on composing. His works include, notably, the operas *Veronika*, first performed in Brno in 1947, and *Cornelia Faroli* (based on the life of Titian) and premiered in Augsburg in 1972. There were also two symphonies, one orchestral, the other choral; two concertos, one for violin, one for cello; and three requiems.

Finally, in 1990, after 42 years in exile he returned to Prague and conducted the Czech Philharmonic in a memorable concert on the city's Old Town Square.

His first wife, the violinist Lala Bertlova, by whom he had one son, died in 1961. He married the soprano Elsie Morison two years later: she survives him.

Church news

Latest appointments include:

The Rev Alison Beever, Assistant Curate, Christ Church and St Mark's, Watford (St Albans), to be Vicar, St Catherine of Siena, Tilehurst (Oxford).

The Rev David Burrell, Priest-in-charge, Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland: to be Priest-in-charge, Culford, West Stow and Wordwell, Flempton with Hengrave and Lackford and The Fornhams and Timworth (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Stuart Carter, Assistant Curate, St Luke, Birmingham, to be Assistant Curate, Christ Church, Quinton (Birmingham).

The Rev Dr Joseph Cassidy, formerly senior lecturer in ethics and theology, to be Assistant Curate (NSM), Salisbury St Martin and Laverstock (Salisbury).

The Rev Christopher Chapman, Priest-in-charge, Loddon, Sisland with Hales and Heckingham, and Priest-in-charge, Loddon (Norwich): to be also an Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral.

The Rev Janet Collins, Team Vicar, Witney Team Ministry, to be Staff Tutor, St Albans and Oxford Ministry Course (Oxford).

The Rev Louise Cooper, Curate, Dovecot (Liverpool), to be Assistant Chaplain to HM Young Offenders Centre, Glen Parva (Leicester).

The Rev Antonia Cretney, formerly Honorary Curate, Bedminster Team Ministry, to be Curate, Bedminster Team Ministry (Bristol).

The Very Rev the Hon Hugh Dickinson, Dean of Salisbury Cathedral (Salisbury), recently retired, now Dean Emeritus.

The Rev Richard Goodhand, Priest-in-charge, Clarborough with Hayton (Southwell): now Assistant Chaplain (part-time) at HM Prison, Ranby.

The Rev Stephen Griffiths, Assistant Curate, Glascote and Stonydelph (Lichfield), to be Priest-in-charge, St Paul, Stratford, and Area Youth Officer (Chelmsford).

The Rev Cynthia Hebden, Curate, deanery of Twyceiyn (Bangor, Church in Wales), to be Curate, St Mary, Knighton (Leicester).

The Rev Jonathan Herbert, Team Vicar, Blakenhall Heath Team Ministry (Lichfield), to be Community Member, Pilsdon Community (Salisbury).

The Rev Eric Heselwood, Vicar, St Mark, Biggin Hill, to be Vicar, All Saints, Orpington (Rochester).

The Rev Sebastian Jones, Vicar, South Ascot, All Souls, to be also Rural Dean of Bracknell (Oxford).

The Rev Trevor Jones, Assistant Curate, Widford (Chelmsford), to be Vicar, St Peter and St Mary Stowmarket (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Roger Matthews, Team Vicar, Chigwell and Chigwell Row Team Ministry, to be Diocesan Mission Officer (Chelmsford).

Canon Roy Matthews, permission to officiate, diocese York, to be Priest-in-charge, Selby Abbey, during the interregnum, same diocese.

The Rev Terence Nottage, Rector, North Sutton Team Ministry, to be Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Adviser in Vocations (Exeter).

The Rev Angus Parker, Associate Minister, Attenborough (Southwell), to be Vicar, St Pancras, Pennycross, Plymouth (Exeter).

The Rev John Potter, Vicar, Swindon New Town Team Ministry (Bristol), to be Vicar, Milber, Newton Abbot (Exeter).

The Rev Anthony Shaw, Head Co-ordinator of Key Stage One in a London School and on the staff of St Mark's Church, Regents' Park (London), to be Priest-in-charge, Winthorpe, All Saints Church and Langford, St Bartholomew with Holme, St Giles, and Diocesan Inspector of Church Schools (Southwell).

A TALE

Every man experienced in love must have felt the pleasure of being deceived, and perhaps he submits with most cheerfulness to the arts of the other sex, acts with more wisdom than the cunning lover, who is for ever investigating facts and circumstances. This was the conduct of a certain Turkish merchant, of whom we are going to give an anecdote.

This merchant went upon a trading voyage which consumed two years, and during his absence his wife, who was young and handsome, *feeling* for his absence consented to the solicitations of an ardent lover to fill his place.

The consequence was that the merchant's wife became a *mother*, without making a father of her betrothed spouse. The merchant returning suddenly, surprised his wife in the very act of nursing her spurious bantling — and assuming a complaisant air, inquired with great humility to what happy accident he owed the increase in his family.

ON THIS DAY

August 12, 1786

The Times, *in its second year, and still called* The Universal Register, *was dependent on more than hard news to fill its columns.*

The lady answered — "Mahomet must be the father, for one day as I lay reclined in the garden upon a bench, a cloud suddenly burst over me — turning my eyes to Heaven, I perceived there was a fall of snow — ejaculating a prayer at the instant, a flock of snow fell into my mouth, and within ten months I was delivered of this fair babe".

"I thank the Holy Prophet", said the merchant, "I wished for an heir and he has sent me one — I am satisfied, and we must take care of the offspring of the father of the faithful". The merchant was a perfect master of dissimulation; he also loved peace and never upbraided his wife, or shewed the least want of affection to the son of the Holy Prophet.

The son grew up, and when 15 the merchant proposed to carry him on a journey — He carried him to Alexandria and there sold him to a merchant who traded to the East Indies. On his return — his wife was distracted at the loss of her son. "Calm your passions", said he, "the Prophet is only to blame — the boy and I on a sultry day travelled upon a lofty mountain, when on a sudden your son began to dissolve, and melted before my eyes — I would have attempted to assist him: but recollecting you had told me he was made of snow, I considered it would have been labour in vain".

A great part of Cheapside, a large proportion of Wapping, a good slice of Rotherhithe, and half Whitechapel have emptied themselves in Margate.

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY AUGUST 12 1996

NEWS

Trim Queen's powers, Blair is told

■ The Queen would be stripped of all her political powers, her role as head of the Commonwealth would be ended and the monarch turned into a purely ceremonial figurehead under radical plans to be delivered to Tony Blair today.

In a far-reaching study, a Fabian Society document calls for abolition of the Civil List, transfer of the powers encompassed by the Royal Prerogative to the Speaker and new national anthems for England and the United Kingdom..... **Pages 1, 2**

British student killed by volcano

■ A gifted medical student has been killed standing on the rim of a volcano in the Philippines which exploded "like an atomic bomb". Julian Green, 21, died in the arms of Gordon Cole, his companion, who was praised for his courage in helping others down the mountain ..... **Page 1**

Multiple mother

Medical experts were astonished that Mandy Allwood, pregnant with octuplets, was given fertility treatment without her boyfriend's agreement..... **Pages 1, 3 16**

Moorland worries

As guns are loaded and Barbours donned this morning for what is likely to prove at best a modest grouse season, anxious landowners will be taking a special interest in the results from one particular Scottish moor..... **Page 1**

Sad Shearer

Alan Shearer, the world's most expensive footballer, has been brought down to earth with a bang..... **Pages 1, 21, 27**

Blair's crusade

Tony Blair has decided to tackle head-on the fears raised by Clare Short about his Labour revolution and launch a crusade to win over doubters ..... **Page 2**

Edinburgh fun

A fight for audiences on this year's Edinburgh fringe may be beyond a joke. A total of 185 comedy shows are competing for attention this year, 40 per cent up on last year and four times more than a decade ago..... **Page 3**

Low-grade exam

Education officials are investigating an examination board that reduced the grade C pass mark in a GCSE mathematics paper to just 14 per cent ..... **Page 4**

Redundant wall

Hardly had Hadrian completed the building of his mighty wall from Tyne to Solway than his successor, Antoninus Pius, declared it redundant..... **Page 6**

Fireworks for Dole

San Diego put on a spectacular fireworks display to launch the Republican convention, but not before Bob Dole had produced some weekend pyrotechnics of his own ..... **Pages 10, 17**

Duty-free puzzles

If you happen to be holidaying in Europe and are stuck in a duty-free checkout queue behind a line of tanned shopaholics, ask yourself a question. Why does "duty-free" still exist?..... **Page 7**

Truce mission

Aleksandr Lebed, the Kremlin's security chief and newly appointed troubleshooter on Chechenia, flew to the Caucasus on a mission to end the worst fighting in Grozny in more than a year..... **Page 7**

New editor named

A woman who once thought of becoming a nun has been appointed Editor of the *Catholic Herald*. She is likely to prove a contrast to her predecessor, Christina Odone ..... **Page 6**

Turkey's blow

Turkey's Islamic Government blew a huge hole in America's attempt to isolate Iran and cripple its energy industry..... **Page 9**

US game show is hard to credit

■ A television game show in America has discarded traditional prizes such as cars and foreign holidays. Instead, it offers to pay off contestants' debt. The show, *Debt*, has proved popular among 20 and 30-something Americans for whom life is often a long struggle to pay off borrowings and it is being considered for a run on one of the big networks ..... **Page 9**

RICHARD AUSTIN

A young kingfisher catches its first minnow from a bowl of water, showing that it is recovering from injuries it suffered when it flew into a window in Wells, Somerset. The bird is being cared for by Sheena Rees at her licensed bird hospital in Glastonbury

BUSINESS

Brewing up: Whitbread is looking at strategic alliances with some of the small regional beer-makers to protect its market position in the light of merger plans between two rivals..... **Page 40**

Job fears: The banking union is calling for publication of a report by an insurance trade organisation that suggests the industry faces the loss of 100,000 jobs over the next five years ..... **Page 40**

Off the ball: While football's Premiership may seem awash with cash, life for smaller clubs is becoming perilous ..... **Page 40**

Stubbed out: Graham Searjeant mulls over the implications of a defeat in the American courts for one of Britain's biggest producers of cigarettes..... **Page 38**

ARTS

Night out: After the recent criticism of the West End, our chief theatre critic, Benedict Nightingale, samples the experience of the ordinary, paying theatre-goer ..... **Page 14**

Radical drama: The German director, Peter Stein, brings his Italian-language production of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya to this year's* Edinburgh Festival..... **Page 14**

Opera fun: Riveting stagings of Jack Beeson's *Lizzie Borden*, Cavalli's *Calisto* and Mark Lamos's *La finta giardiniera* make New York's Glimmerglass opera festival a great success ..... **Page 15**

Fine music: Ambiguous yet illuminating, magnificent and inspiring: such was the debut of Mikhail Pletnev and the Russian National Orchestra at the Proms..... **Page 15**

FEATURES

Star gazers: The discovery of bacteria-like forms from Mars has given credence to the search for alien life elsewhere in the universe, reports Anjana Ahuja..... **Page 11**

New series: How many of life's little pleasures did you enjoy this weekend? A couple of cigarettes? A bottle of wine? Perhaps your indulgence was a bit stronger? Does that make you a drug addict or an alcoholic? Rosie Boycott, Anthony Holden and Candida Crewe on the power of addiction..... **Pages 12, 13**

Mother mouse: A finding by a PhD student has put a new twist in the old nature-nurture debate. She found that mice without the right gene abandon their pups, suggesting that nurture is determined in the first place by nature .... **Page 11**

SPORT

Football: Alan Shearer was upstaged as his new club, Newcastle United, were beaten 4-0 by Manchester United in the FA Charity Shield..... **Pages 21 and 27**

Cricket: Nick Knight hit a maiden Test century as England scored 501 to take a first-innings lead of 53 over Pakistan in the second Test at Headingley ..... **Page 25**

Motor racing: Jacques Villeneuve beat Damon Hill into second place in the Hungarian Grand Prix. Their team, Williams Renault, won the constructors' title..... **Page 23**

Golf: Russ Cochran, of the United States, led the field as Europeans struggled in the final round of the US PGA in Louisville ..... **Page 22**

Rugby league: St Helens beat Paris Saint-Germain and returned to the top of the Super League ... **Page 23**

Horse racing: Cigar, the seemingly invincible American horse, failed in his attempt to achieve a seventeenth successive victory, at Del Mar, California ..... **Page 32**

NATIONAL LOTTERY

41, 23, 36, 45, 3, 38. Bonus: 44.
Two winners share this week's £10,551,982 jackpot, each taking £5,275,991. Nine receive £360,751 each for five correct numbers plus the bonus number. A total of 717 tickets matched five numbers, winning £2,830 each; 49,356 matched four numbers, to win £90 each; and 1,008,409 won £10 each.

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Geoff Schumann, the comedian, reflects intelligently on his craft in *The Day that Changed my Life* (BBC2, 8pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss had a heart-rending, mind-blowing weekend..... **Page 39**

OPINION

Tax and trust

The twin themes of tax and trust are compelling. Mr Dole has a moving story to tell and a fine career to highlight. He has to do that throughout the convention this week. He will not have another chance..... **Page 17**

To play the man

Ultimately, there is no easy way to package attractively the damaged goods that make up this Government. A willingness to tackle Mr Blair head-on at least demonstrates a renewed spirit..... **Page 17**

Feathered enemies

A ban on shooting birds of prey allowed their numbers so to increase that they not only decimated colonies of game birds, but also brought about catastrophic falls in other protected species ..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG
The essence of Reaganism is smaller government, lower taxes, more jobs, local populism, and patriotism. The experience is that this is a winning combination ..... **Page 16**

PETER RIDDELL
Mr Dole assumes that more than a quarter of the cost of tax cuts will be recouped by higher tax revenues generated by faster growth. But the Reagan years showed that across-the-board tax cuts without comparable spending reductions merely push up the budget deficit and interest rates..... **Page 16**

OBITUARIES

Professor Sir Nevill Mott, winner of 1977 Nobel Prize for Physics; **Rafael Kubelik**, Czech-born conductor and composer..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

Rantzen Report; Tube strikes; merits of metric; Civil Service standards; noisy neighbours.... **Page 17**

THE PAPERS

For the French, this is turning into a summer to forget. France [has been thrown into] a self-questioning and anxious mood

— La Repubblica

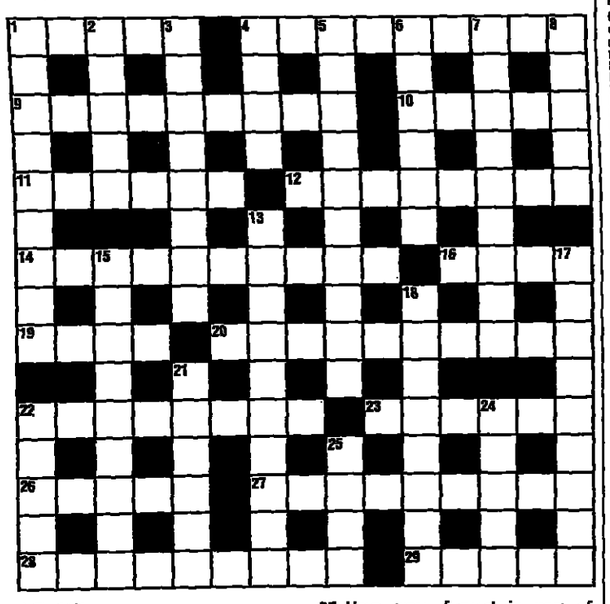
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **ARTS**
Edinburgh nights: opening reviews from the world's biggest arts jamboree

■ **LAW**
Who can and can't sue for libel? How privatisation may change things

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,244



ACROSS

1 Brush suit before church (5).
4 Pays for changes? (9).
9 Seeing spirit in a mount, one speculates (9).
10 Drive around a foreign country (5).
11 Prematurely ended the career of a singer (6).
12 How to follow lots of players for a little extra entertainment (8).
14 The company taking ages blames reorganisation (10).
16 Leave it in some haste – that's the answer (4).
19 The Queen – very large and famous statue (4).
20 Moving, though quite mad, proposal (10).
22 Remarkable pieces thrown by a beginner at wheel (8).
23 Majestic bearing to give delight (6).
26 Absolute quiet always required (5).
27 Keen team formed in part of London (9).
28 A pharmacist's coin-in-the-slot machine (9).
29 The more of these people have the more they want! (5).

DOWN

1 Initially call to account for capital (5-4).
2 A river sailor seen around before midday (5).
3 Pass several – so liberal (8).
4 Pity the young widow staying with her mother-in-law! (4).
5 Engaging heavyweight to appear in a Northern town (10).
6 A woman in extremity – turned out (6).
7 Food from Peg that is totally cooked (9).
8 European agreement over as yet unused power (5).
13 Grants made once all was settled (10).
15 A good man to put down the latest news (4,5).
17 Though perhaps perfect at the top, head shows strain (9).
18 Rustic poems, possibly written in German (8).
21 Panic about cold, in short (6).
22 A seed concoction was found soothing (5).
24 Taking a drink about four is vital (5).
25 Alarm's loud to attract attention (4).

ABERLOUR

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,249 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

Times Two Crossword, page 40

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin'S File'Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
H'W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

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For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area wide, M25	731
Essex, Herts, Beds, Bucks, Berks, Oxon	732
Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
Northern England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.42 am — Sun sets: 8.29 pm
Moon sets 7.10 pm — Moon rises 4.00 am

New Moon August 14
London 8.29 pm to 5.43 am
Bristol 8.39 pm to 5.53 am
Edinburgh 8.56 pm to 5.40 am
Manchester 8.43 pm to 5.45 am
Penzance 8.46 pm to 6.09 am

FLIGHT SAVERS
LONDON TO ROTTERDAM from £59 return.
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Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability, airport tax and differing travel periods. Restrictions apply. Book by 22nd August. See Teletext p.354. Air UK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Over England and Wales, overnight rain might be slow to clear, and will be followed by showers developing during the day. They will be heavy in the east, perhaps with thunder, lighter and more scattered in the west. Temperatures will be about normal, at best, in light northerly winds.

Much of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be bright with some sunshine, though there will also be some scattered showers. North Sea coasts and the Northern Isles, however, will be rather overcast and drizzly, with hill and coastal fog. Temperatures will be close to normal in light winds.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, E, Cent N England, E Anglia, Midlands:** Bright, but heavy showers developing, perhaps thunder. Wind north or northwest light, but gusty in showers. Max 19C to 21C (66F to 70F)

☐ **Channel Isles, SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man:** Bright or sunny spells and a few showers. Wind mainly northwest light. Max 18C to 20C (64F to 68F)

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** Scattered showers. Becoming misty near coasts. Wind north or northeast light. Max 16C to 18C (61F to 64F)

☐ **Aberdeen, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Patchy drizzle, hill and coastal fog. Locally bright inland. Wind east or southeast light. Max 15C to 17C (59F to 63F)

☐ **SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, N Ireland:** Bright or sunny spells and a few showers. Wind variable or northwest light. Max 17C to 19C (63F to 66F).

☐ **Outlook:** overcast with showers in the east, bright with sunshine in the west.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright, c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale, h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

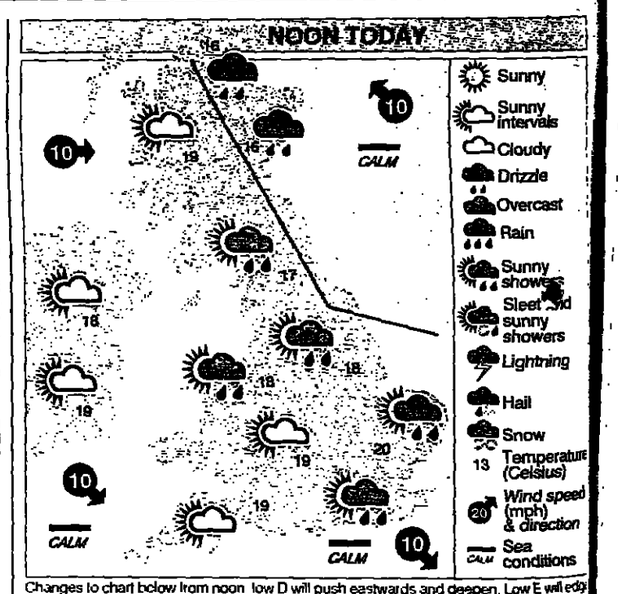
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.5	-	19	66	s	Lowthorpe	10.2	-	19	66	s
Anglesey	9.8	0.12	20	68	sh	Littlehmptn	6.2	0.28	19	66	r
Aspatria	5.0	0.02	21	70	t	London	6.0	0.39	21	70	r
Aviemore	2.5	0.01	18	64	c	Lowestoft	3.7	0.03	21	70	sh
Belfast	11.3	-	21	70	s	Manchester	4.5	0.02	21	70	b
Birmingham	3.5	0.35	21	70	sh	Margate	9.2	0.05	19	66	r
Bournem'th	3.1	.2	19	66	sh	Minehead	7.7	0.88	19	66	sh
Bristol	1.0	0.97	18	64	r	Morecambe	3.9	0.04	20	68	t
Buxton	2.6	0.11	18	64	s	Newcastle	5.1	0.01	18	64	s
Cardiff	3.0	0.36	19	66	sh	Newquay	9.3	0.55	17	63	s
Colwyn Bay	10.2	0.03	18	64	s	Norwich	5.9	0.03	21	70	sh
Cromer	0.9	0.01	19	66	s	Oxford	0.5	0.09	17	63	sh
Dunbar	7.3	-	17	63	s	Penzance	*				
Eastbourne	6.7	0.03	19	66	b	Ross-o-wye	-	0.05	19	66	sh
Edinburgh	2.4	-	19	66	c	Salcombe	10.6	0.37	23	73	s
Eskdalemuir	4.9	-	19	66	b	Sandown	1.8	0.26	17	63	r
Falmouth	9.9	0.33	19	66	s	Saunton Snd	9.3	0.20	19	66	s
Fishguard	5.8	0.09	16	61	sh	Scarboro'	10.4	-	19	66	s
Folkestone	6.4	0.09	20	68	b	Shanklin	2.2	0.38	17	63	r
Glasgow	8.9	-	23	73	s	Shrewsbury	7.5	0.02	19	66	sh
Guernsey	3.9	0.61	19	66	c	Skegness	3.1	-	19	66	c
Hastings	8.2	-	20	68	b	Southport	7.2	0.15	20	68	s
Hayling I.	4.2	0.28	19	66	sh	Southsea	2.2	0.24	19	66	r
Herne Bay	3.5	0.10	20	68	sh	Stornoway	0.9	0.02	18	64	b
Hove	8.2	0.01	19	66	b	Swanage	1.8	0.66	17	63	sh
Isle of Man	7.5	0.01	20	68	s	Tenby	10.7	0.03	19	66	s
Jersey	6.2	0.45	19	66	b	Tiree	11.5	-	17	63	fg
Kinloss	*	-	20	68	s	Torquay	5.0	0.45	20	68	s
Leeds	3.6	0.07	21	70	r	Ventnor	2.2	0.37	17	63	sh
Lerwick	-	0.02	15	59	r	Weston-s-mare	1.2	0.18	18	64	s

ABROAD

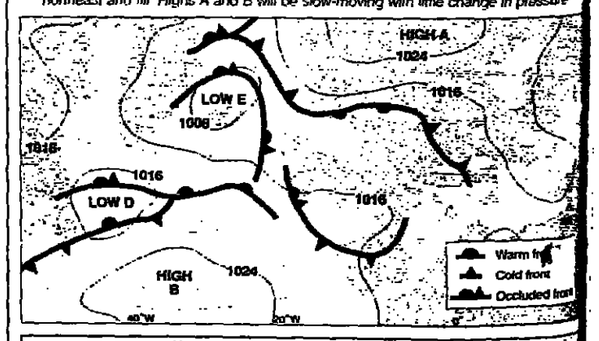
	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	27	81	f	C'phagn	23	73	s	Malaga	36	97	s	S Paulo	27	81	c
Akrotiri	30	86	s	Dublin	17	63	r	Malta	29	84	s	Salzburg	19	66	r
Alex'dria	28	82	c	Dubrovnik	X	X	X	Melb'rne	13	55	f	Santiago	14	57	s
Algiers	32	90	s	Faro	24	75	s	Mexico C	18	64	c	Seoul	32	90	c
Amst'dm	20	68	f	Florence	28	82	f	Miami	29	84	s	Sing'por	24	75	r
Athens	30	86	s	Frankfurt	22	72	f	Milan	24	75	c	St'kholm	25	77	s
B Aires	16	61	s	Funchal	26	79	s	Montreal	25	77	s	Strasb'rg	22	72	f
Bahrain	41	106	s	Geneva	20	68	f	Moscow	22	72	f	Sydney	18	64	r
Bangkok	33	91	f	Gibraltar	30	88	s	Munich	17	63	f	Tangier	26	79	s
Barbados	X	X	X	Helsinki	23	73	s	N Delhi	31	88	f	Tel Aviv	32	90	f
Barcelona	27	81	s	Hong K	31	88	c	N York	27	81	f	Tenerife	29	84	s
Beirut	30	86	s	Innsbruck	17	63	r	Nairobi	25	77	f	Tokyo	29	84	f
Belgrade	28	82	s	Istanbul	27	81	f	Naples	31	88	f	Toronto	24	75	f
Berlin	26	79	s	Jeddah	38	100	s	Nice	27	81	f	Tunis	37	99	s
Bermuda	28	82	s	Jo'burg	19	66	s	Oslo	25	77	f	Valencia	31	88	s
Biarritz	21	70	f	Karachi	X	X	X	Paris	22	72	f	Vanc'ver	21	70	s
Borde'x	21	70	r	Los Angeles	23	73	f	Peking	27	81	f	Venice	25	77	f
Brussels	21	70	c	L Palmas	26	79	s	Perth	14	57	f	Vienna	25	77	f
Budapest	27	81	s	La Toquet	18	64	f	Prague	21	70	f	Warsaw	25	77	s
Cairo	33	91	s	Lisbon	25	77	s	Reykjavik	12	54	c	Wash'ton	22	72	c
Cape Tn	16	61	s	Locarno	21	70	X	Rhodes	28	82	s	Wel'ngton	9	48	X
Ch'church	7	45	X	Luxembg	19	66	c	Rio de J	28	82	f	Zurich	17	63	s
Chicago	26	79	s	Luxor	40	104	s	Riyadh	42	108	s				
Cologne	20	68	f	Madrid	28	82	s	Rome	29	84	s				
Corfu	30	86	s	Majorca	30	86	s	S Fr'isco	19	66	s				

Temperatures at midday local time X - not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low D will push eastwards and deepen. Low E will edge northeast and fill. Highs A and B will be slow-moving with little change in pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	0.17	6.5	12.41	6.6	Leith	1.13	5.0	1.38	
Aberdeen	-	-	12.30	3.8	Liverpool	10.06	8.4	10.22	
Avonmouth	5.45	11.7	6.03	12.2	Lowestoft	8.04	2.4	8.51	
Belfast	10.08	3.2	10.18	3.4	Margate	10.58	4.4	11.30	
Cardiff	5.30	10.7	5.54	11.1	Milford Haven	4.57	6.0	5.16	
Devonport	4.18	4.7	4.34	5.0	Newquay	3.41	5.7	4.02	
Dover	10.05	6.1	10.29	6.1	Oban	4.40	3.4	4.44	
Dublin (N Wall)	10.36	3.6	10.47	3.9	Penzance	3.26	4.8	3.46	
Falmouth	3.32	4.3	3.58	4.8	Portland	5.20	1.6	5.37	
Greenock	11.46	3.0	11.46	3.3	Portsmouth	10.19	4.3	10.24	
Harwich	10.31	3.7	10.58	3.7	Shoreham	10.18	5.6	10.28	
Holyhead	9.17	4.9	9.32	5.2	Southampton	9.46	4.2	9.58	
Hull (Albert D)	4.50	6.7	5.19	6.5	Swansea	5.02	8.3	5.20	
Ilfracombe	4.45	8.2	5.03	8.6	Tees	2.24	4.7	2.45	
King's Lynn	4.56	5.8	5.21	5.9	Walton-on-Naze	10.29	4.0	10.54	

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Gravesend, Kent 24C (75F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, Shetland, and the Highland, 14C (57F); highest rainfall: Great Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, 0.91in, highest sunshine: Bournemouth, Dorset, 9.8hr

RNLI RESCUE UPDATE – 12 AUGUST 1996

Total number of lives saved so far this year:	319
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year:	1,893
Cost to RNLI per day:	£173,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

RNLI Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Reg. Charity No. 209603